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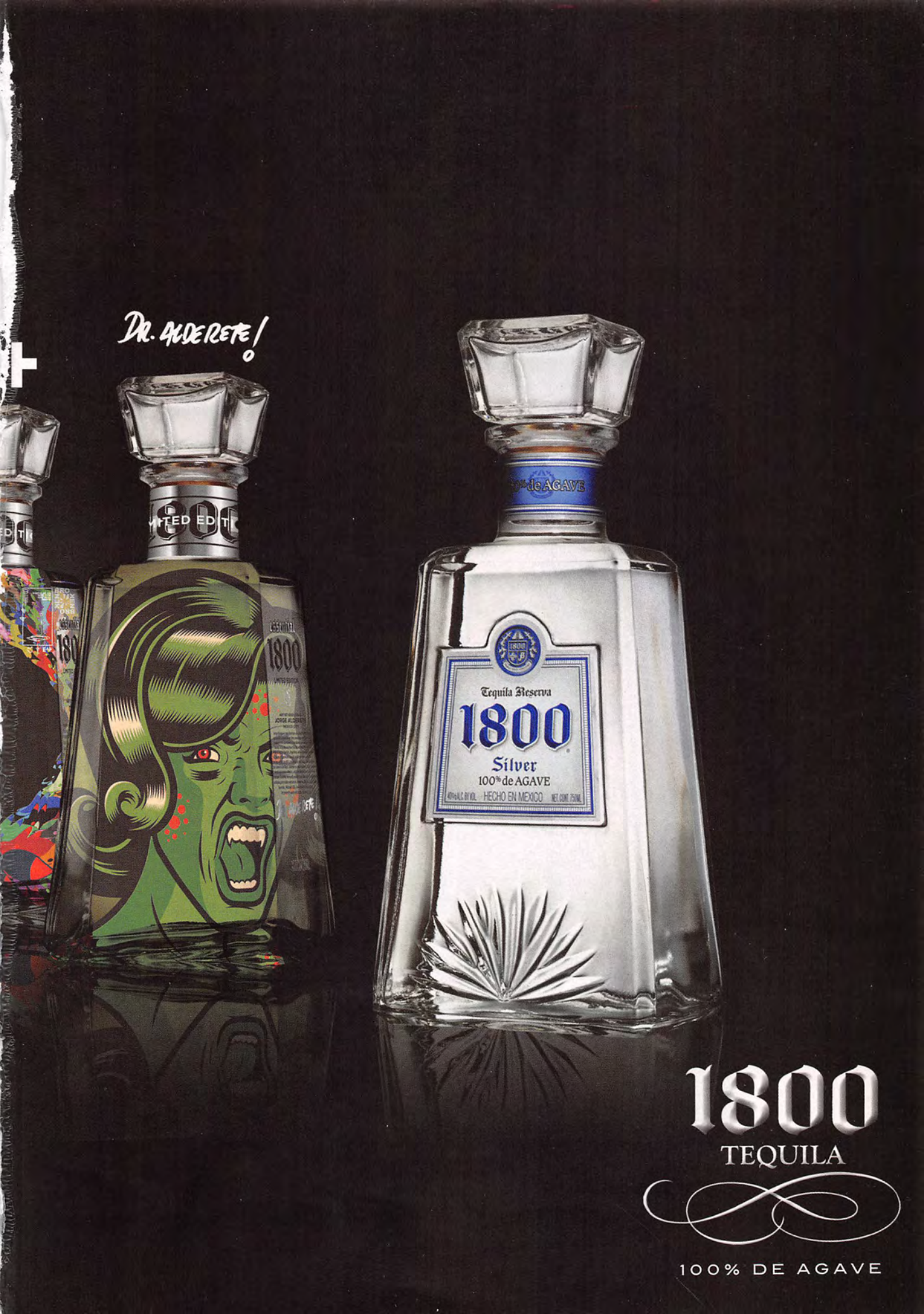
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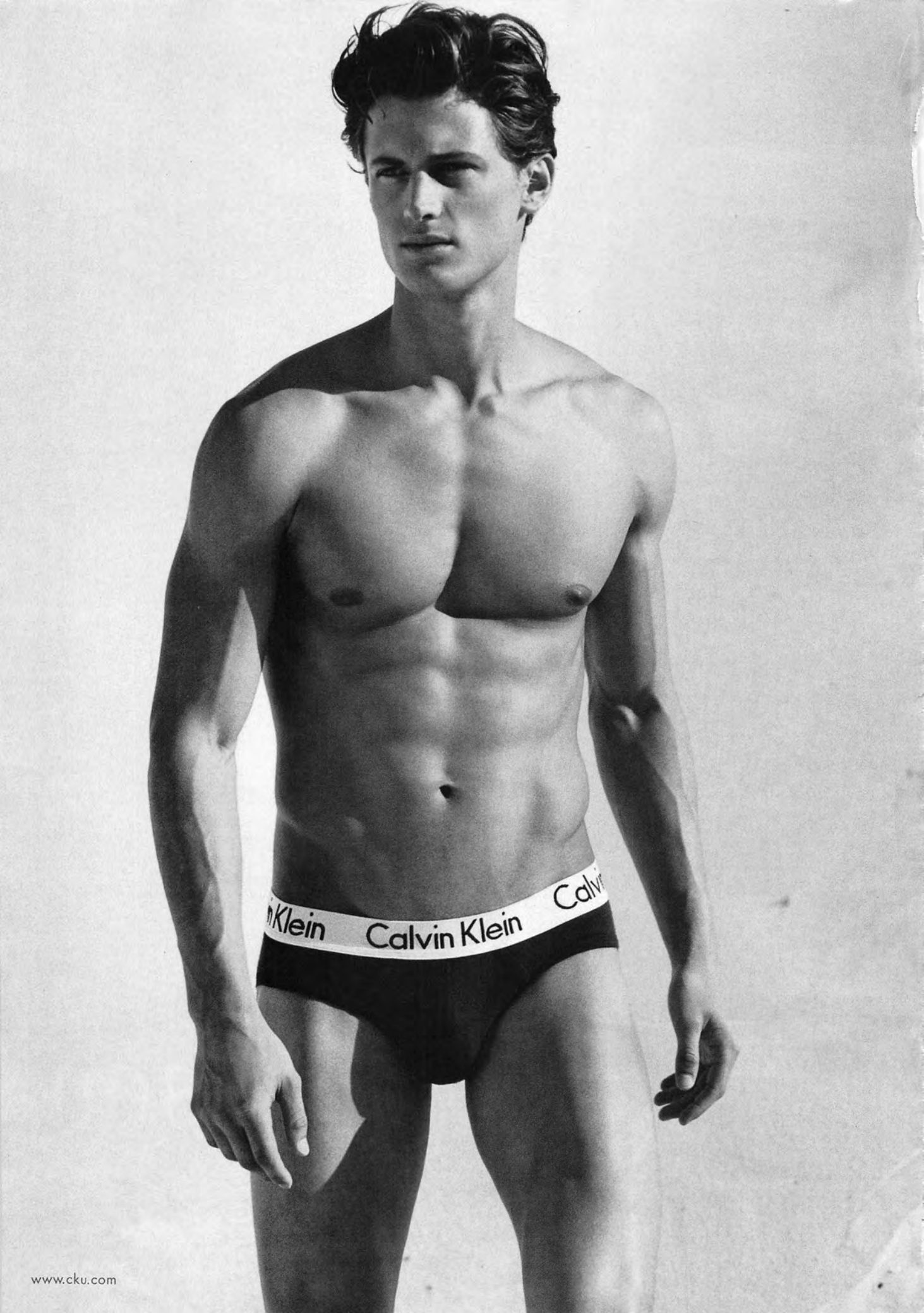

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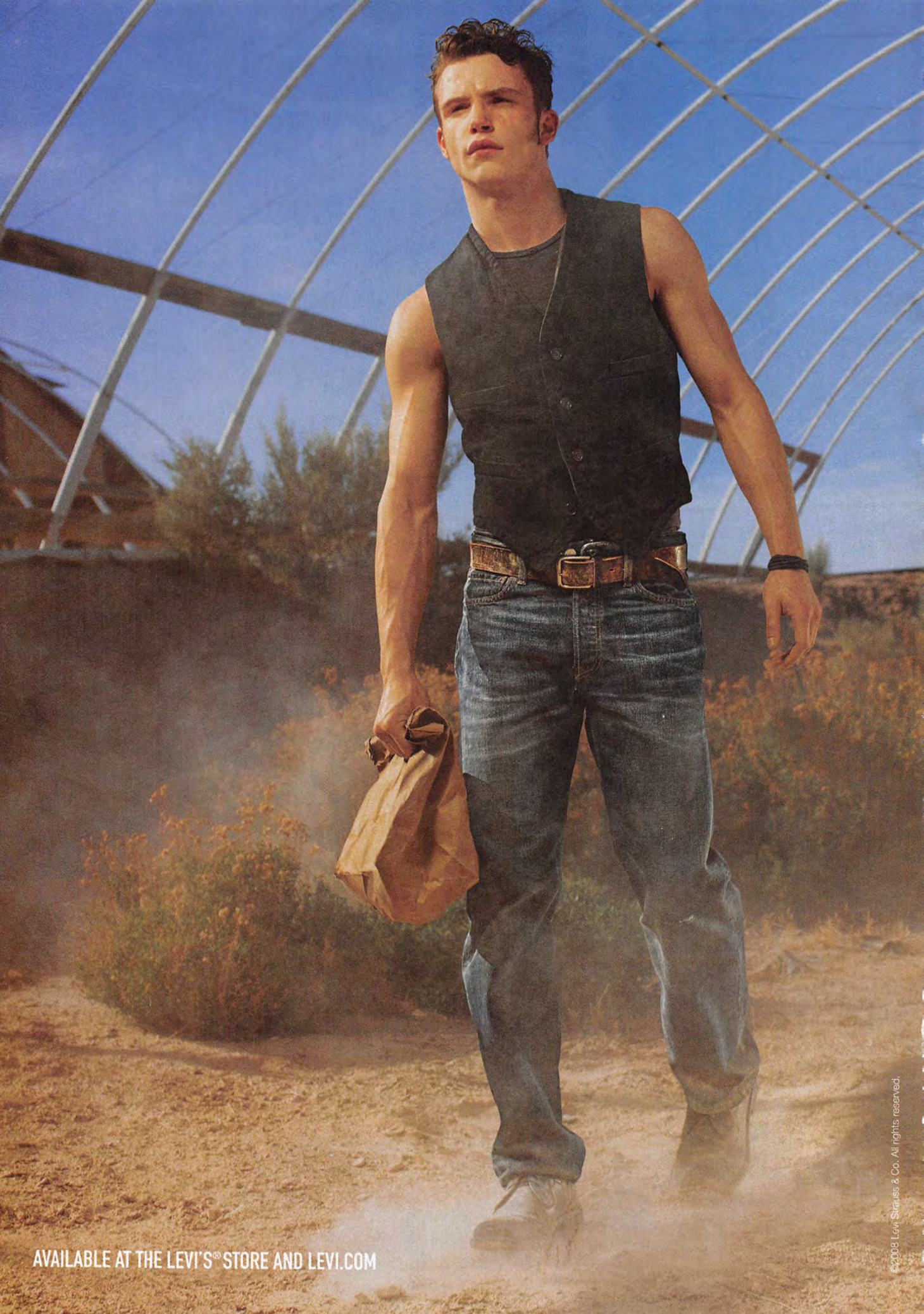
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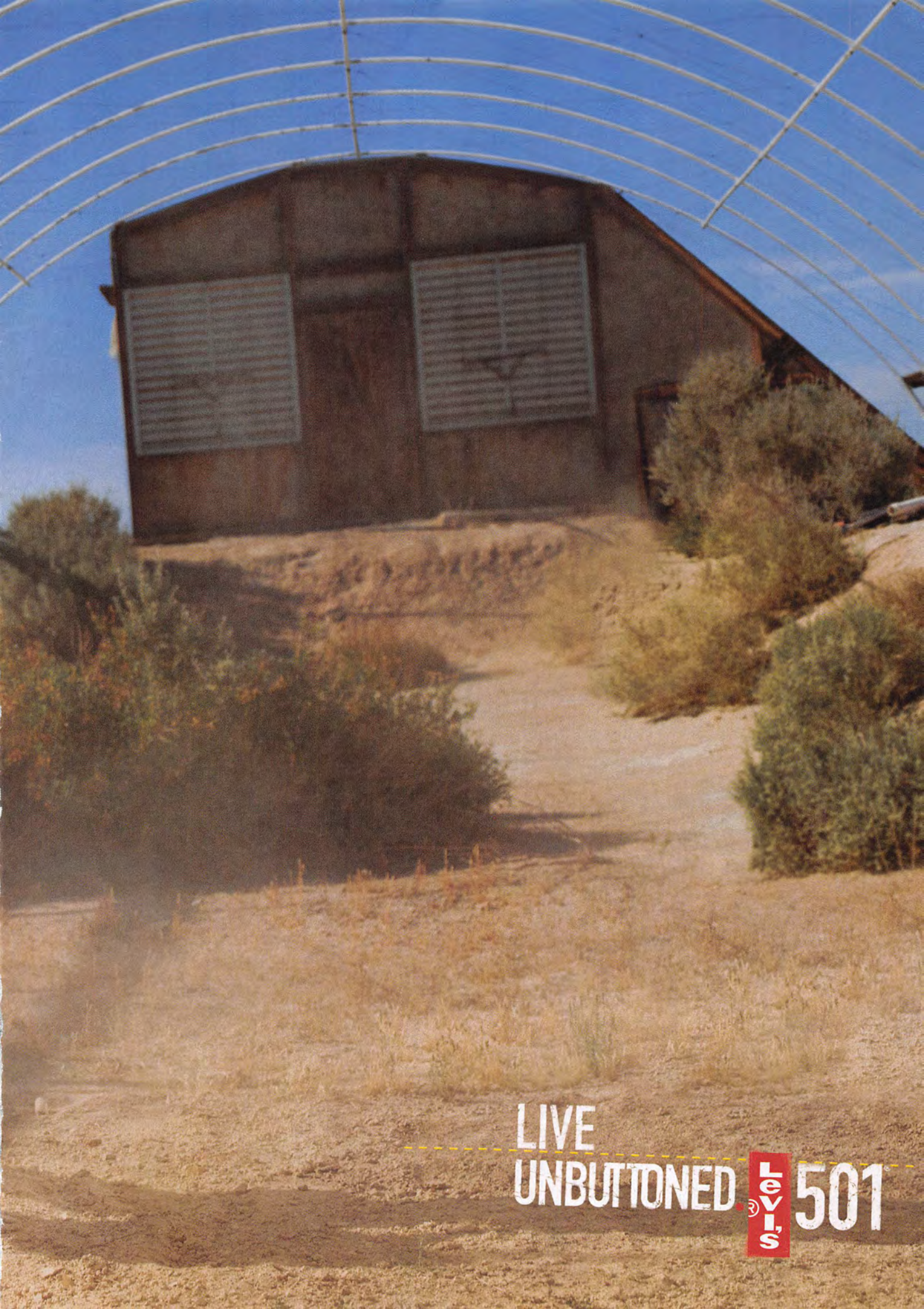
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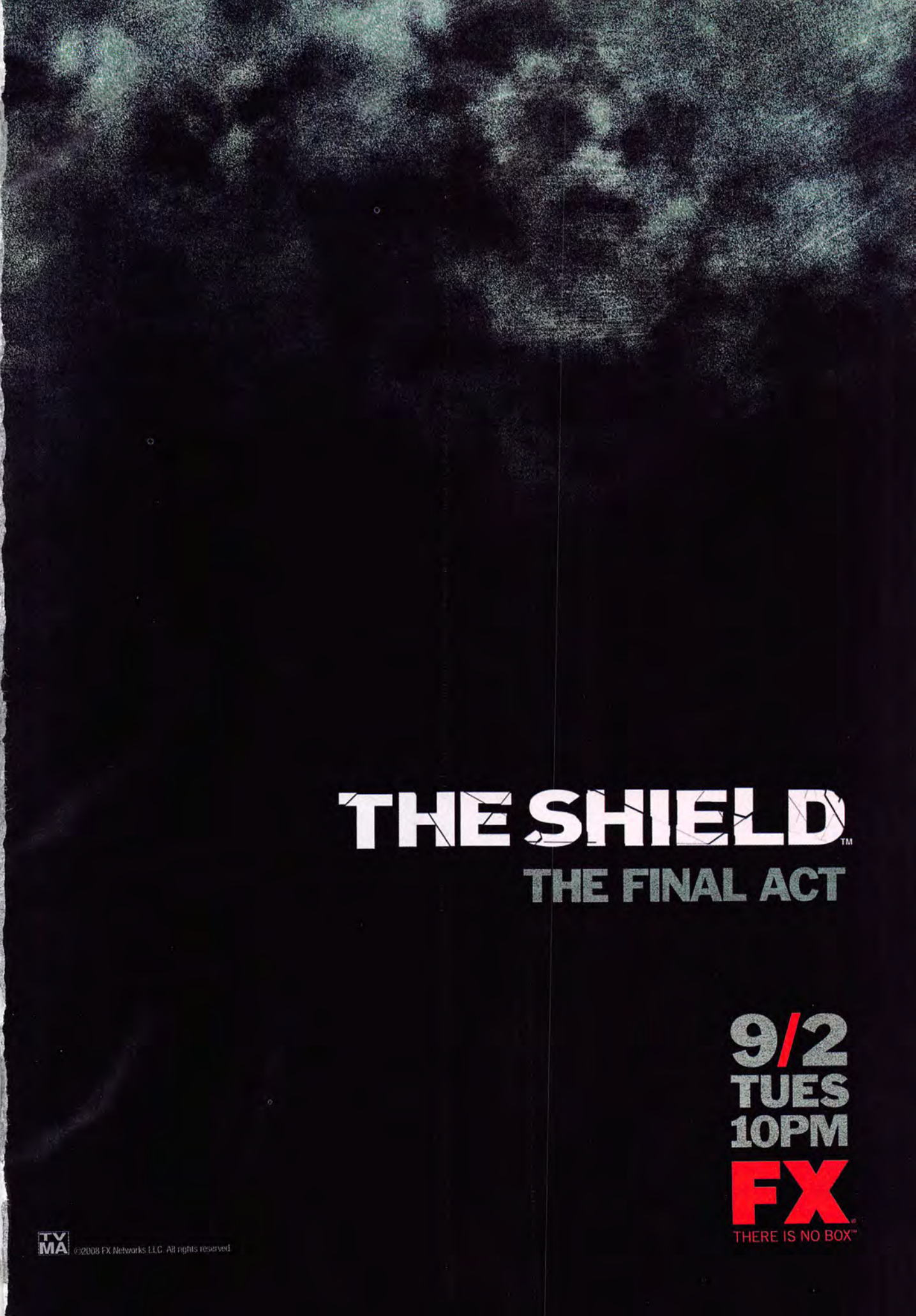
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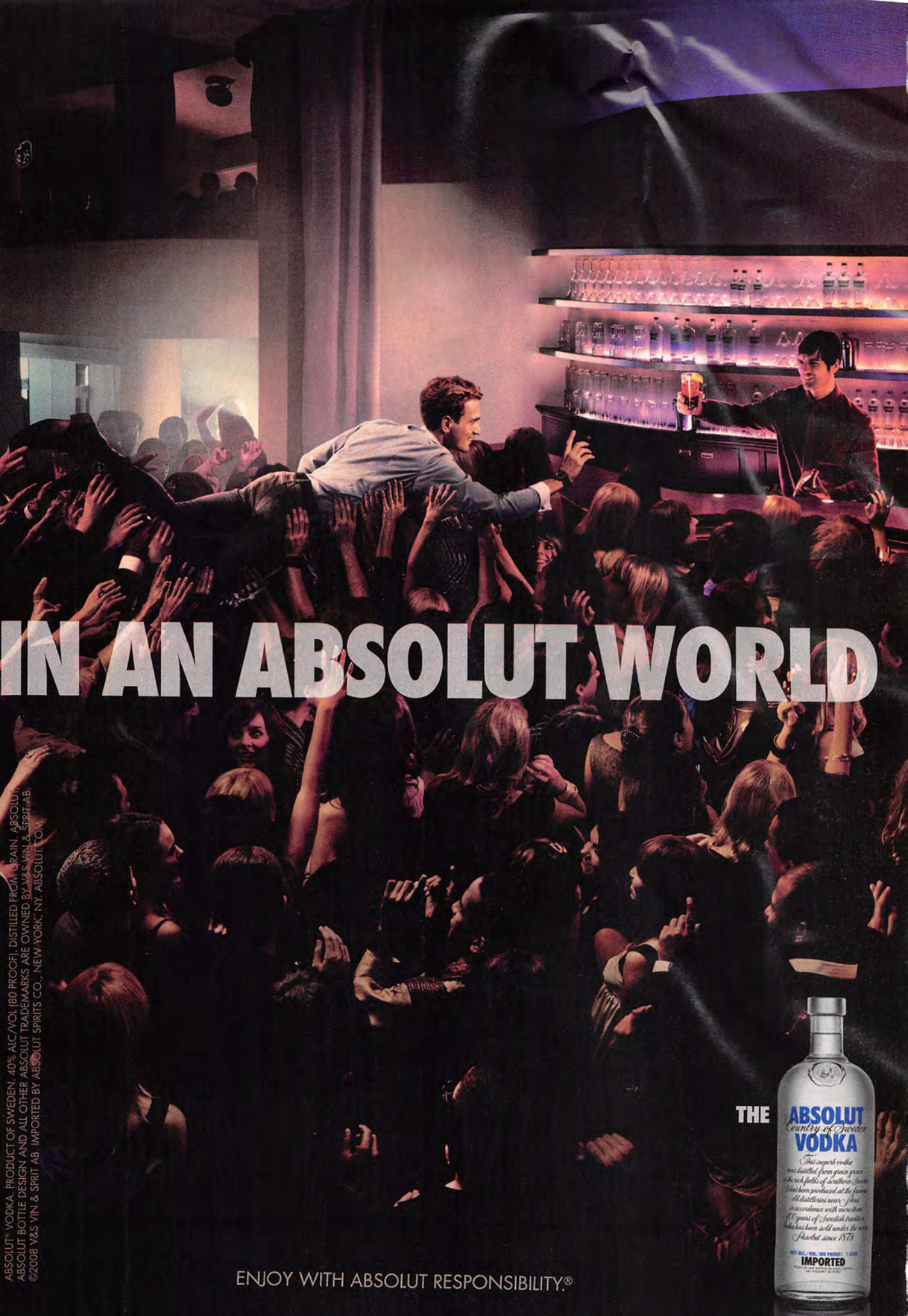

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68 Anna Kournikova

The ultimate tennis temptress serves up the sexy and declares that she's single again. But don't get too excited—it's not like you have a chance in hell!

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100 **Icon: Nicolas Cage**
The eccentric Oscar winner on filming a movie in Thailand during a military coup, eating fried scorpions, and why he's still obsessed with comic books. By Steven Russell

102 **Heat of the Knight**
Knight Rider is revamped and roaring back to the small screen, and luscious leading lady Deanna Russo has got us gunning our engines. Better luck next time, Hasselhoff! By Alison Prato

108 **The Most Dangerous Game**
It's a bloodbath on the front lines of India's rhino wars, where rangers and poachers are killing each other over the coveted horns. A *Maxim* special report. By S.L. Guynup

On the Cover
Photograph, Stephan Würth; styling, Maddy Simpson; hair, Ameneh for Ford Artists using Redken; makeup, Billy B for billybbeauty.com; bikini, Norma Kamali

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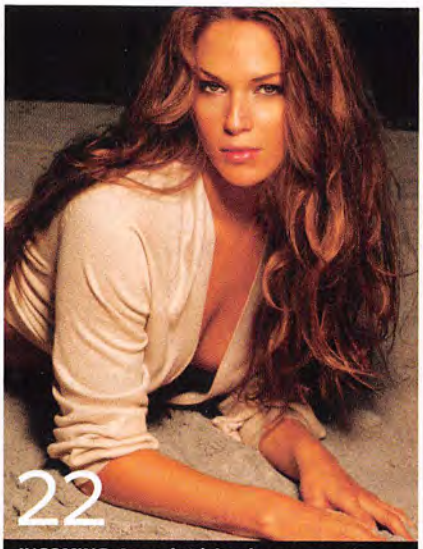

INCOMING: Amanda Righetti goes mental.

STUFF: Wi-fi audio assaults your eardrums!

Sack master Jason Taylor, looking good

RATED: Marvel's *Stand* really delivers.

SEX COLUMN: Some like it rough. Seriously!

20 Letters
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22 Incoming
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We play dress-up with the NFL's premier defensive end—and most impressive dancer—Jason Taylor. He's totally incapable of a fashion fumble!

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Our summer was all sand castles and sunburn. How was yours? Find out by taking this month's Decider quiz!

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WHAT'S ONLINE NOW

1. Celebrity Beach Watch. Sand sirens like Josie Maran are a click away, and we're posting hot new shots of our favorite starlets laughing in melanoma's face every weekday!

2. Chris Cooley's NFL Blog. The Redskins tight end and refreshingly candid blogger takes Maxim.com more inside the NFL than *Inside the NFL* (minus the wet towel snaps).

3. The 2008 Hometown Hottie Finalists. Check out this year's top 10 townies and see whether your favorite Hottie made the grade. Vote to determine the hottest of the hot starting September 10. (Hot!)

4. Lamest Workout Wear. Flex your pecs in anything *but* these cringe-worthy gym gear ensembles.

5. Exclusive Video. The faultless Anna Kournikova looks even better in motion. So slap on your short-shorts and head to Maxim.com to watch the sultry server hold court behind the scenes of our smoking cover shoot.

Frank's attempt to make his wife jealous had some flaws.

Beat This Caption!

TO ENTER

1. Offer up to the gods of funny (us) your most hi-larious attempt at Maxim.com/contests.
2. If we deem your caption supreme among all the entries, prepare to win a surfboard courtesy of waveridingvehicles.com.
3. Move your browser of choice to Maxim.com to check if you've won (probably not!).

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(2) A new Today's Girl every weekday. Text MAXGAL to 44636 (4INFO).

(3) For smoking wallpapers and ridiculous ringtones, text MXM2243 to 51945.

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Editor's Letter

SEPTEMBER 2008

Explorer Christopher Columbus dared to ask if the world was round. Scientist Alexander Fleming dared to ask if some mold growing in a petri dish might stave off deadly infections. And poet-warrior Hank Williams Jr. dared to ask if you were ready for some football. History has shown the answers to all these questions to be a resounding yes, and that is why we decided to devote an entire issue to penicillin.

Trouble is, our ad team was able to sell approximately two pages of ads based on this theme (one to Zithromax and the other to a pill for something called "restless leg syndrome"), so we switched to football. Welcome to *Maxim*'s 2008 NFL Blowout!

Kidding, of course (despite our best efforts, we never did pull in Zithromax). But we're serious about our crazy love of pro football. Sure, some people wax elegiac about baseball, the only sport that compels middle-aged managers who can barely do a push-up to wear snug-fitting team uniforms, and moves so slowly that fans can catch a serious buzz between pitches. But in my mind, the end of summer brings with it two blessed events: (1) an end to the rash of grown men wearing short-shorts in the office (senior editor Patrick Carone and assistant editor Jesse Brukman, I'm looking in your pale-legged direction); and (2) the return of America's *true* national pastime. Football is an unparalleled carnival of violence and high drama, and no player has ever epitomized the game better than Joe Willie Namath. From his Fu Manchu 'stache and the llama-skin rugs in his Manhattan bachelor pad to his "guaranteed" Super Bowl III victory, Broadway Joe ushered in the modern NFL. He serves as the inspiration for our Seventh Annual All-*Maxim* team: 23 athletes who combine on-field innovation with equally amazing off-field attitude. And because we deeply understand the whole "short attention span" thing, we also crammed our preview with the hottest cheerleaders and boldest predictions. My advice to you: Absorb every word, then put your bookie on speed dial.

Speaking of winners, you may have noticed the return of a certain tennis icon to our cover. Yes, that is Anna Kournikova, and, unlike most of us, she hasn't packed on a few pounds and lost all her money to Enron over the past 10 years. On the occasion of the U.S. Open, we checked in with our favorite once barely legal tennis hottie. I'll resist the temptation to use one of the many possible ball boy jokes such an occurrence cries for and just tell you that Ms. K is twice as hot as you remember. The magic starts on page 68.

Enough sports talk. There's another contest coming down the road, a little event called the 2008 American presidential election. It's fun! It's sexy! And lucky for you, we've made registering to vote a breeze—go to Maxim.com and we'll do the rest. The trickle-down theory was never hotter! Rock the vote! Put on your game face! And let's kick things off.

James Kaminsky
Editorial Director

YOU MAKE THE CALL!

Test your NFL knowledge with our mind-mashing gridiron challenge.

1 Why was a flag thrown on this play?

A. There was a late hit.

B. No. 58 jumped the snap.

C. While technically not a rule, the post-tackle tickle fight totally creeped everyone out.

2 What is this fan saying to this Philadelphia Eagle?

A. "Awesome catch!"

B. "Next stop: Super Bowl!"

C. "Easy with the teeth!"

3 Football's a highly emotional game. Why is No. 96 upset?

A. He just fumbled the ball.

B. His team just lost in the playoffs.

C. Can't shake his hated locker room nickname, Pee-Wee.

ANSWER KEY: 1. C; 2. C; 3. C

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Letters

Make us feel loved—or hated! Drop us a line at **letters@maxim.com**.

Licking this picture will not make you feel better about yourself.

LETTER RIP!

Applaud us, attack us, or shower us with indifference...Either way, we're still getting paid!

Satisfied Subscriber

I've had a *Maxim* subscription for six years and I thought your July issue was one of your best. The Marisa Miller, and "Global Goddesses" spreads were amazing and the "Dark Knight Rising" story with Frank Miller was incredible. I even loved the Mobile Tech Report feature!

Adam via e-mail

You "even" loved the Tech Report? Anyone who'd stare at the most beautiful women in the world before ogling 10 gear-packed pages of dorktastic tech clearly has his priorities all wrong...weirdo!

Frank-O-Phile

I just wanted to let you know how impressed I was by your profile of Frank Thomas ["The Natural," July]. Baseball is my passion, my release, and my life. What you guys said really did him justice. Thomas has stood strong and never wavered. Congratulations are due to him and you. You should all feel proud.

Sabrina Roberts Lakewood, WA

Thanks, Sabrina! Interesting to hear that baseball is both your "passion" and your "release." That's kind of how we feel about all those panda sex videos we bought off the Internet. Hey, we've all got our own ways of blowing off steam, right?

Phony Photog

My daughter has been receiving texts from a photographer supposedly from your magazine. He wants to meet her at a Best Western tonight. Can you tell us if he's really working for you? Please respond to this message ASAP.

Sandy Freed via e-mail

Best Western?! Sorry, but we make our photogs crash at a youth hostel or in an unlucky Maxim *subscriber's garage. But since you sent this two months ago, we're guessing your daughter is already in her first trimester. Congratulations, you're going to be somebody's "Nana"!*

Too Much Tequila

Could you please stop giving Tila Tequila more steam? She was in *Blender*, *Stuff*, and now in *Maxim*'s Hot Right Now [July]. She sucks and is the epitome of terrible.

Mike via e-mail

Don't hate the hotness, Mike. The bisexual beauty's show featured troubled, bikini-clad chicks making out. Forget HRN, that's Hot Right Forever.

Tree Hummer

In your "Summer's Hottest Rides" feature [July], you missed the mark. The Hummer? A much better choice would be the Chevy HHR SS. It has a turbocharged engine, retro looks, good gas mileage, and a much more affordable price. Plus, it's a blast to drive.

Jim via e-mail

Thanks for the advice, Jim. But weren't you the guy who sent us that poem last month about how much you loved your '94 Geo Tracker? You're starting to creep us out a little bit. Maybe go ride a bike or something...

LETTER OF THE MONTH

"Birth control? Nah, I'm cool."

Mommy Dearest

I'm 25, the mother of two beautiful babies, and an avid reader of your magazine. I'm writing because when I was pregnant with my daughter I had a rather vivid dream. In it I was somehow chosen to be featured in *Maxim*! So I had to write and ask, have you ever done some type of "Hot Mom" feature?

C.A. via e-mail

No, but have a watch for reminding us of the glory days of Clair Huxtable!

Mail Bonding

We've calculated your feedback mathemagically!

76% "Dry-rubbed" themselves after drooling over the succulent pork pics in our Texas BBQ feature.

51% Wept quietly with joy while reading the 2008 Mobile Tech Report... while wearing virtual reality goggles.

27% Inspired by our Q&A with Coldplay's Chris Martin, took piano lessons and rocked FAIR TRADE NOW pins.

17% Got their ass kicked after trying Wladimir Klitschko's perfect punch in a bar fight. Protect yourself at all times!

7% Lost a finger after test-grinding the four badass blenders we recommended in our Stuff section. Ouch!

.01% Were unexpectedly turned on by the Gillette Body Wash ad on page 91. Hey, this isn't *Details*, pal!

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INCOMING

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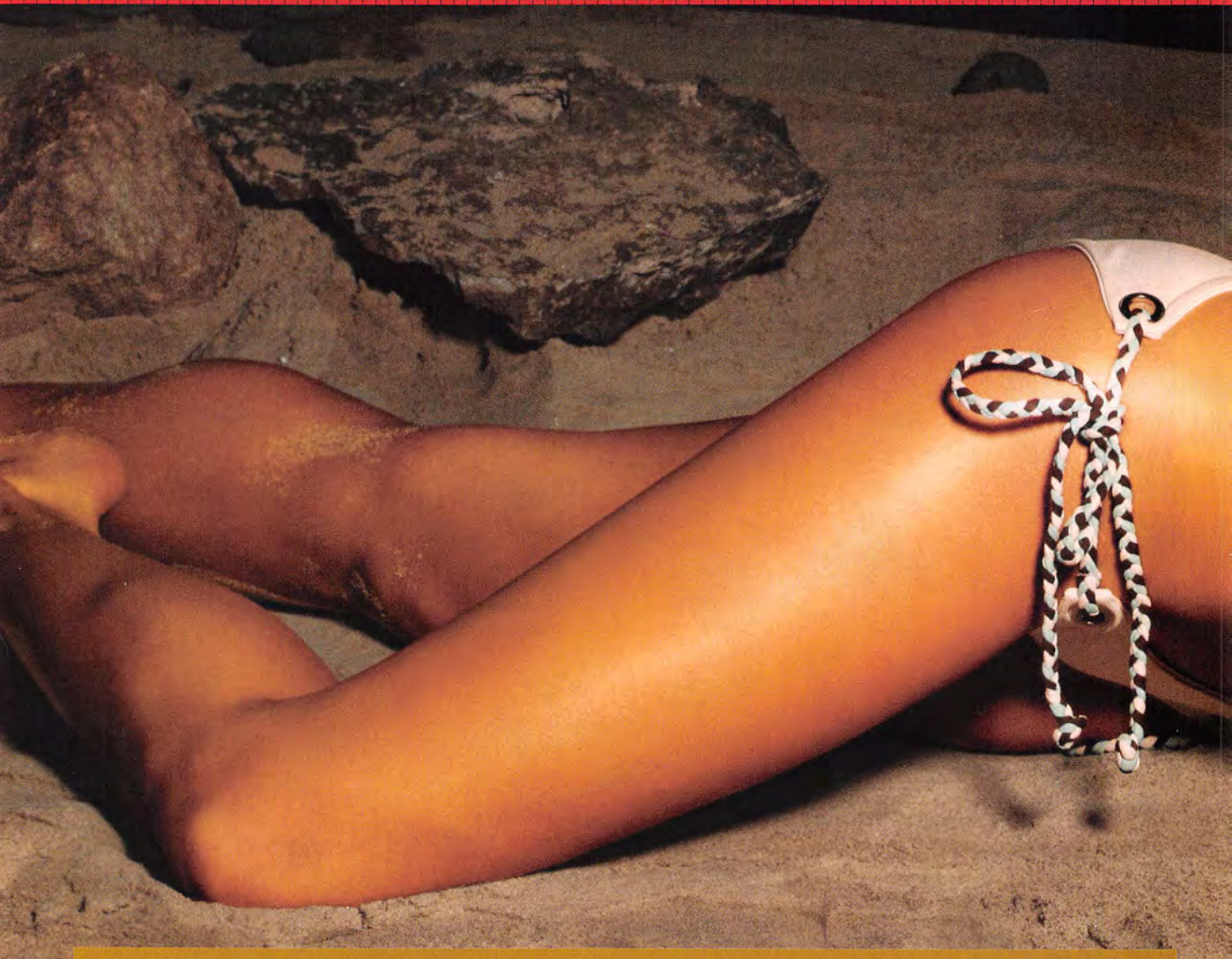

MY FIRST TIME

AMANDA RIGHETTI

She may portray a wide-eyed, Bible-thumping rookie in CBS's new murder-mystery drama *The Mentalist*, but the stunning Amanda Righetti is by no means a TV novice. With roles in *The O.C.*, *North Shore*, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, and *Entourage*, she has definitely been lighting up your flat-screen. But if you want to get to know the fox behind the face, listen in as Amanda reveals her significant firsts.

First Crime

"I did some pretty bad things as a teenager. When I was 13, I took my friend's mom's car out for a joyride, and I actually managed to hit somebody else's car. No one was hurt, but needless to say, I didn't get behind the wheel again until I had my driver's license."

First Audition

"I laugh at it now, but one time I had an agent tell me I would never work in TV if I didn't get a nose job. People tell you to change yourself to fit into the L.A. scene, but the advice usually doesn't make any sense. The next agent told me my nose was great!"

First Casino Windfall

"I never really had an itch for gambling. I work hard for my money, so I don't like going out and giving it away like that. But I did win 60 bucks once in Vegas. It paid for dinner."

—Jesse Brukman

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS FORTUNA

MK2K sweater **Kushcush** bikini bottoms

5 Lusso Turntable

Vinyl fetishists (the record-collecting kind) have 12 inches of love for this acrylic and aluminum masterpiece from ultra-high-end German audiophiles Montegiro. The Lusso consists of four isolated, striped cones: The smaller cones hold a super-precise motor, two carbon-fiber tonearms, and a titanium cartridge. And the big cone? It spins your scratched-up, dusty Foghat records! *$49,500, montegiro.de*

4 Tooth Tattoos

You can't swing a rusty needle without hitting a mook with a tat on his arm, but that isn't yet the case for a mook with tattoos on his teeth! Be that mook by going to toothartist.com. Artist Steven Heward will paint a porcelain crown for you (about $250 for tooth and art), then your dentist will install it while questioning your sanity. Sweet!

THE COUNTDOWN

Five amazing, cool, and slightly alarming things we're obsessed with in September.

3 Summer Glau

This beautiful badass returns to the geektastic *Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles* this fall on Fox, giving the Cyborg we have at home serious body issues.

2 Atlantic City

No longer a second-rate Vegas by the seashore, A.C. is gaining serious cool cred. The tastemakers behind molten-hot Manhattan nightspot the Beatrice Inn just joined forces with a boutique hotel there called the Chelsea; the Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa debuted the Water Club, a $400 million addition with a 400-jet Jacuzzi; and Harrah's has unveiled a 44-story glass-domed tower. The only bad news? The salt-water taffy they sell on the boardwalk will still rot your teeth.

1 Spore

Infect your PC this month with the latest time waster from *The Sims* creator Will Wright. *Spore* spans from primordial ooze minigame to full-blown space conquest, and will soon be blamed for countless hours of lost productivity!

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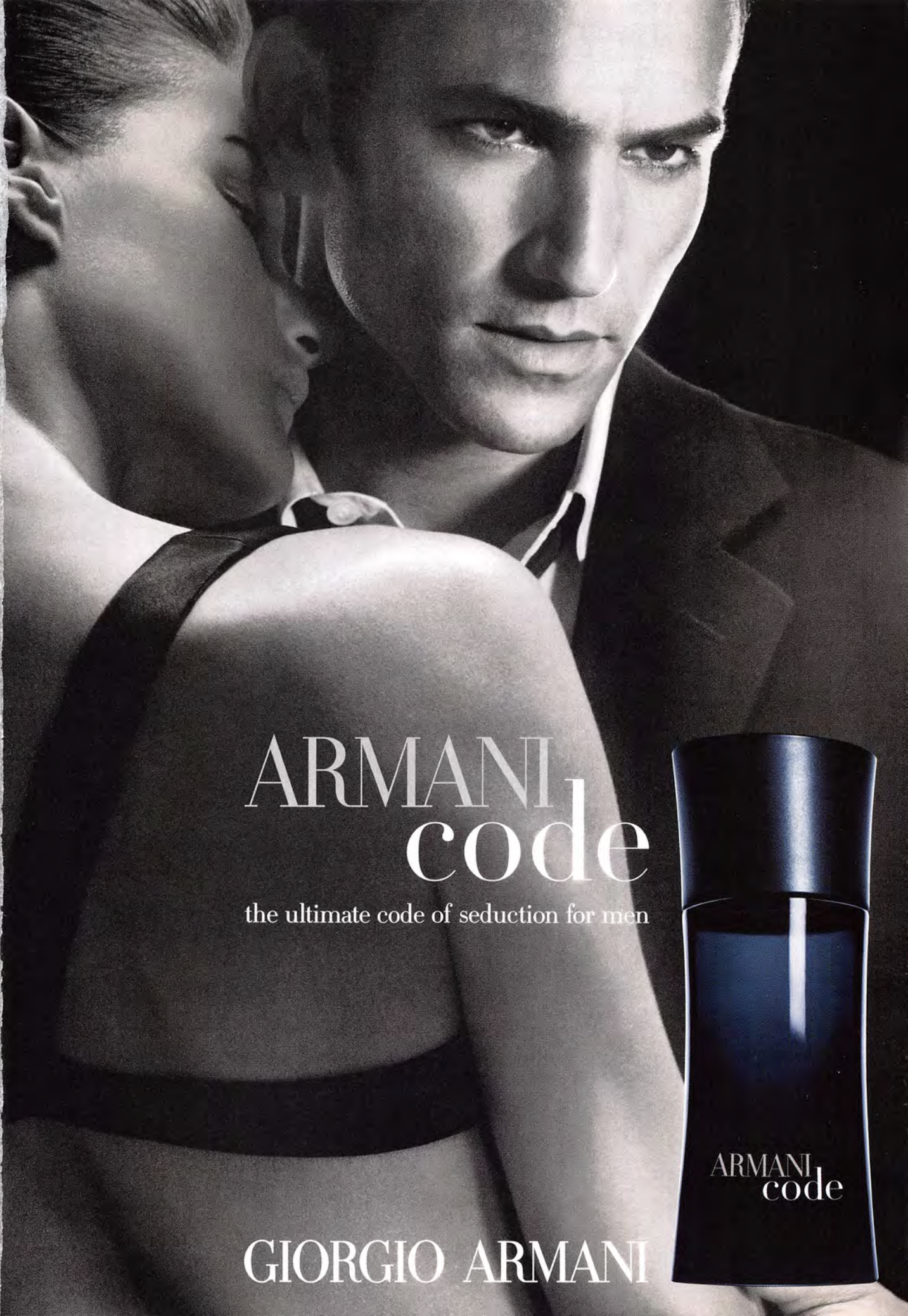
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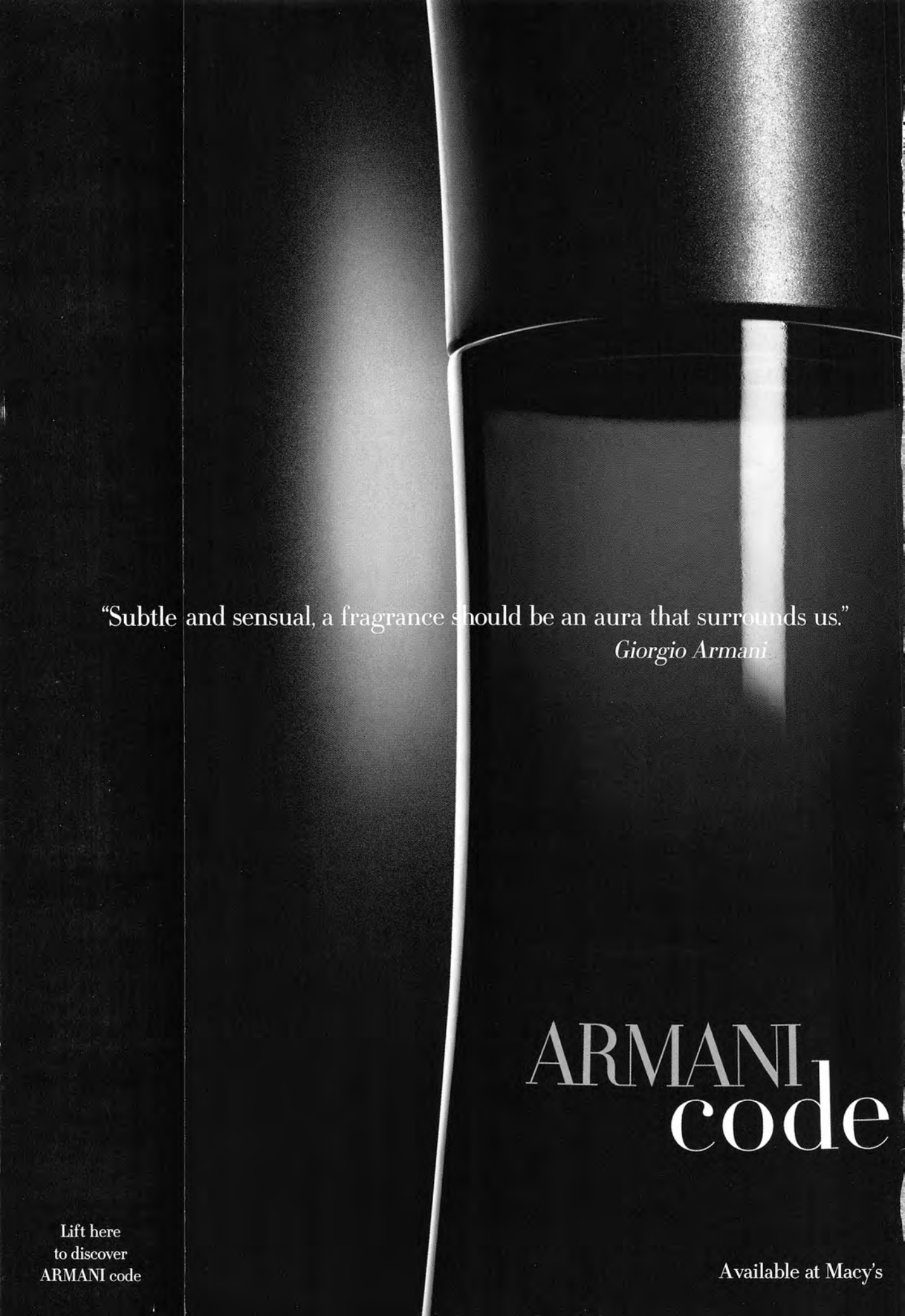
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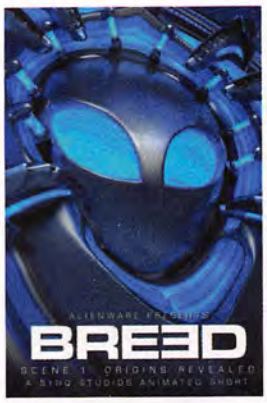

A new odyssey begins with the launch of *Breed*, Alienware's episodic mini-film chronicling the origins of the planet's most advanced computers.

alienware.com/breed

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Virgins Have Never Been This Naughty!

The sexy new comedy starring Hayden Christensen and Mischa Barton comes to DVD August 26.

anchorbayent.com

Budweiser SELECT

Budweiser Select and Maxim threw an ultra sexy, "select" movie after-party following a private screening of the Steve Carell-Anne Hathaway comedy *Get Smart*. DJs Jay E (Nelly's producer) and Deception rocked St. Louis' most beautiful crowd.

budweiserselect.com

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CONVENTIONAL WISDOM

Attention, delegates: *Daily Show* alum Ed Helms is about to blast your seated ass with hot insider info.

Back in 2004 I attended both the Republican and Democratic political conventions as an award-overlooked reporter for *The Daily Show With Jon Stewart*. I learned a lot about survival in the political trenches, and now, with both conventions looming, it is my privilege to share this knowledge with you. The first and most important tip: Bring along a cyanide capsule with which to take your own life. It will come in handy as you invariably spiral into a vortex of anger and disillusionment with the American political process brought on by the dawning realization that nobody at either convention has anything of any value to say about anything.

However, given the soaring price of cyanide capsules, here are a few more practical tips for the average conventioneer.

First let's look at the Republican convention. One thousand dollars for a new Brooks Brothers suit and $19,000 for handmade cowboy boots from Amarillo, Texas should help you fit right in. One mistake I made in '04 was showing up dressed exactly like the little guy from Monopoly, with a bushy white mustache, a tuxedo, and a top hat. Whereas this is obviously how all Republicans dress in private, it is considered immodest when trying to woo the commoner vote on TV. To learn the finer points for Republican messaging, I suggest a six-month internship at Fox News Channel, drawing chocolate baths for Bill O'Reilly. Once on the convention floor, you will find most folks are friendly as long as you inject nuggets of Republican ideology, for example: "I just spoke to the Wisconsin delegates, and they were so delightful, unlike abortions." Remember, if someone asks you a question and you don't know the answer, it's probably either "more prisons" or "privatize" or "privatize more prisons."

Democrats are a very different breed, and you will need to make adjustments accordingly. For starters, try to arrive in a solar-powered car or a recumbent bicycle made of bamboo. Wear a hemp suit with tie-dyed boxers, a Jerry Garcia tie, and Birkenstocks. Also make sure you bring some lube so you're prepared for the giant opening-night love-in on the convention floor. In '04 I brought a custom dildo featuring the head of Karl Marx, and it was quite a hit. Democrats are a delightfully passive bunch, so don't worry about taking any strong positions. Just nod and say, "That's a great point, but we should probably hold back and look into it further." This will make you enormously popular. In a pinch, declare that you are gay and begin quoting NPR. Also—and I learned this the hard way—do not solicit Democrats to invest in your beluga whale jerky company, no matter how passionate you are about beluga whale jerky. Apparently the whales are endangered, and Democrats "care" about that sort of thing. But I still say beluga jerky is the best jerky out there. ●

Ed likes irony, hates ironing.

Hat's Entertainment! Conventioneers are completely cuckoo for loopy lids.

"The more buttons you have, the more you love freedom!"

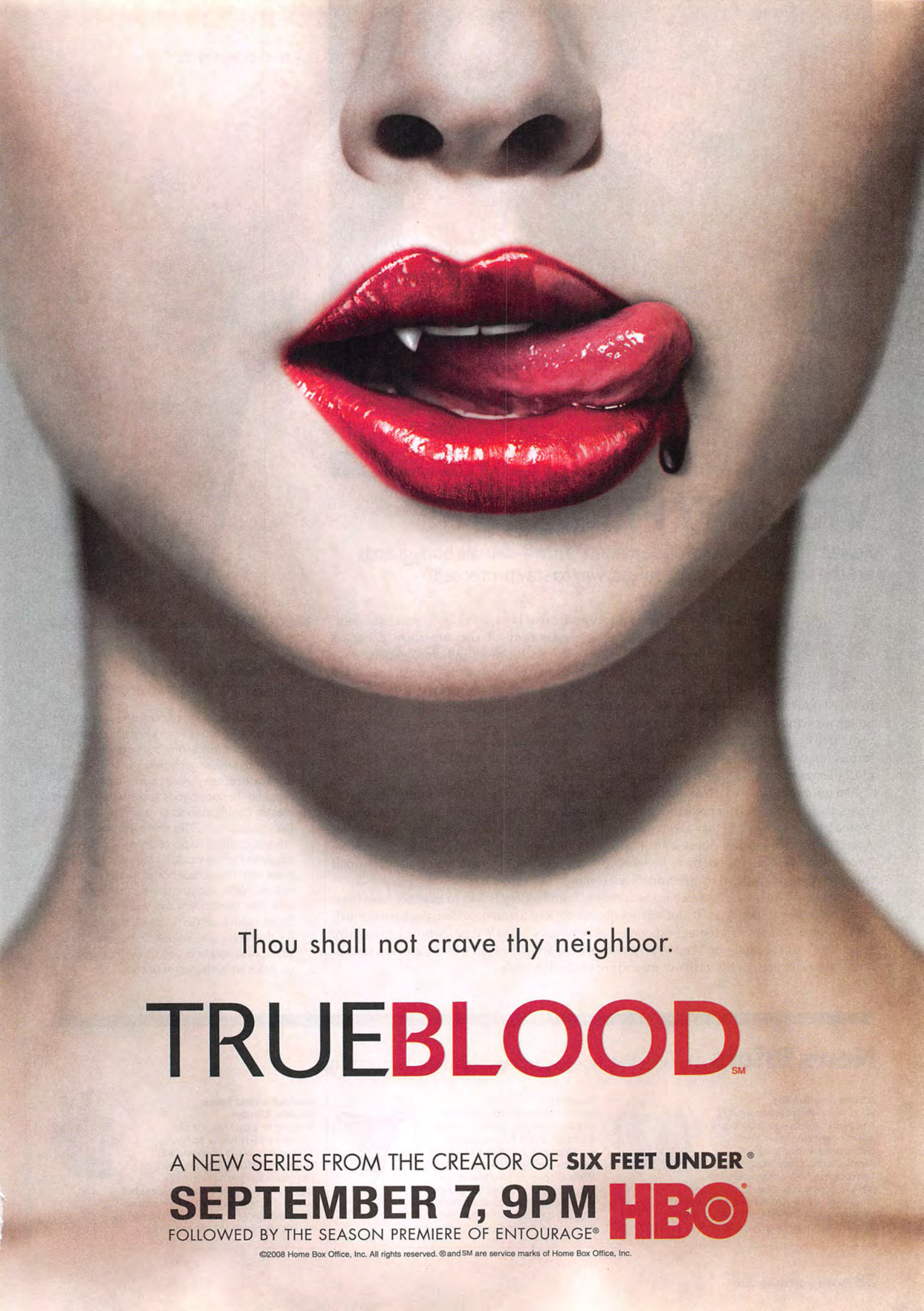
Under her hat? More flags!

Yes, that's Eeyore. Don't ask where she keeps Pooh.

All night, drunken strangers kept "watering" his hat.

Excited and fully engorged to be a part of the process.

Family disgrace: John McCain's youngest son, Phil.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"So are you going to buy a lap dance or what?"

VIOLENT FEMMES

Forget that 400-pound dude named "Tiny"—female bodyguards are the sexiest (and maybe safest) way to stay protected.

What's 5'4", 120 pounds, and can put a psycho stalker in a vicious choke hold? Why, it's the latest security accessory of the superrich: a badass female bodyguard! "We're getting a lot more calls for women," says Jerry "Doc" Watson, an executive at Bodyguards of Texas, one of the country's largest protection services. The trend is believed to have started in Russia. After Moscow's swankiest restaurants began banning burly male bodyguards, billionaires who feared for their safety turned to "female executive protection specialists" to prevent them from being kidnapped. Perhaps the most famous was 29-year-old jujitsu expert (and former Russian *Maxim* model) Anna Loginova, who ran an elite, all-female bodyguard agency until she was tragically killed in a January 2008 carjacking.

While some exclusive U.S. nightclubs bar hulking hired muscle from crossing their velvet ropes, there are some other reasons why girlyguards are becoming more popular stateside. "Some people are finding that a 6'5", 350-pound guy draws too much attention," says Harlan Austin, a former security director for Prince who now recruits for bodyguard companies. "Women are generally thought to be more attentive, better listeners, better around small children. And female clients can definitely relate more."

According to Austin, A-list celebubabes ranging from Lindsay Lohan to Beyoncé have been protected by female bodyguards. But are they qualified? "Rest assured, our females have as much Special Forces or law enforcement experience as our males," says Watson, whose top security specialists cost $225 an hour. "And when it comes to clearing the ladies' bathroom at a restaurant, it'll be a lot prettier sight if it's them and not me."—*Tim Struby*

"Tasty, but I prefer my cone to be made entirely of bacon."

#10 IN A SERIES

Bacon Porn

We scream for bacon ice cream!

We eat our share of ice cream here at *Maxim* (there's a big tub of Rocky Road in the men's room for some reason), but something was always missing: namely, the transcendent taste of salty-sweet pork flesh. So we thanked the bacon gods above when dessert master David Lebovitz dreamed up Candied Bacon Ice Cream. This smoky, cinnamon-infused confection perfectly melds the deliciousness of the world's greatest breakfast meat with the decadence of homemade ice cream. We're also pretty sure that if you rub it on your chest every day, you'll live longer. Don't believe us? Go to davidlebovitz.com for the recipe and make it for yourself. Hey, worst case scenario, you screw it up and end up stuck with a bunch of bacon!

News Briefs

This just in: Underwear tops this month's headlines.

Obama Gets Briefed
What, you think there's something creepy about wearing a snug-fitting pair of bright blue boxer briefs emblazoned with an image of Barack Obama's face? Whatever. The designer, Andrew Christian, plans to donate $1 to Obama's campaign for every $29 pair sold. If seeing O's earnest mug serves as a reminder to "change" said plum huggers every day, we're all for it.

Thong Hit
Macrida Patterson, a 52-year-old Los Angeles traffic officer, is suing Victoria's Secret for unspecified damages after being attacked by a recently purchased pair of panties. While slipping into her brand-new thong, a metal clip used to secure a rhinestone heart onto the undies shot off and hit her in the eye, cutting her cornea. Is it wrong to be completely aroused right now?

Boulder Holder Saves Boulder Climber
Trapped on a rock ledge in the German wilderness for 70 hours, 24-year-old Jessica Bruinsma was able to signal for help by attaching her sports bra to a cable used by loggers to haul timber. Loggers at the bottom of the mountain spotted the bra and immediately called police (after masturbating like only German lumberjacks can).

PHOTOGRAPH, SATOSHI (BACON CONE); FOOD STYLING, SUSAN OTTAVIANO

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ALDO

MIRANDA KERR

A spiritual supermodel so insanely beautiful Buddha would knife-fight you for her. Om!

Dear Miranda,

You know what? To hell with bikini tops! We're with you on this. There's simply no reason for a physically flawless Victoria's Secret supermodel to wear one. After all, the last thing you want to do after modeling lingerie all day is wear some stupid top that leaves unsightly tan lines. Believe us, we've been there!

We couldn't help noticing that you're reading Abdi Assadi's *Shadows on the Path*—apparently with your breasts! But then, we've heard that devout Buddhists like yourself possess otherworldly powers. We're pretty sure your equally Buddhist boyfriend, dreamy actor Orlando Bloom, can heal sick children just by pouting at them. He is *that* handsome!

Still, it's gotta be weird dating someone who knows more about moisturizer than you do... no matter how spectacular his cheekbones are. If you ever need a regular guy to meditate with in the morning, give us a buzz. We've been waiting for an excuse to wear our yoga pants outside the office. We'll even tie the drawstring!

Love Ya,
Maxim

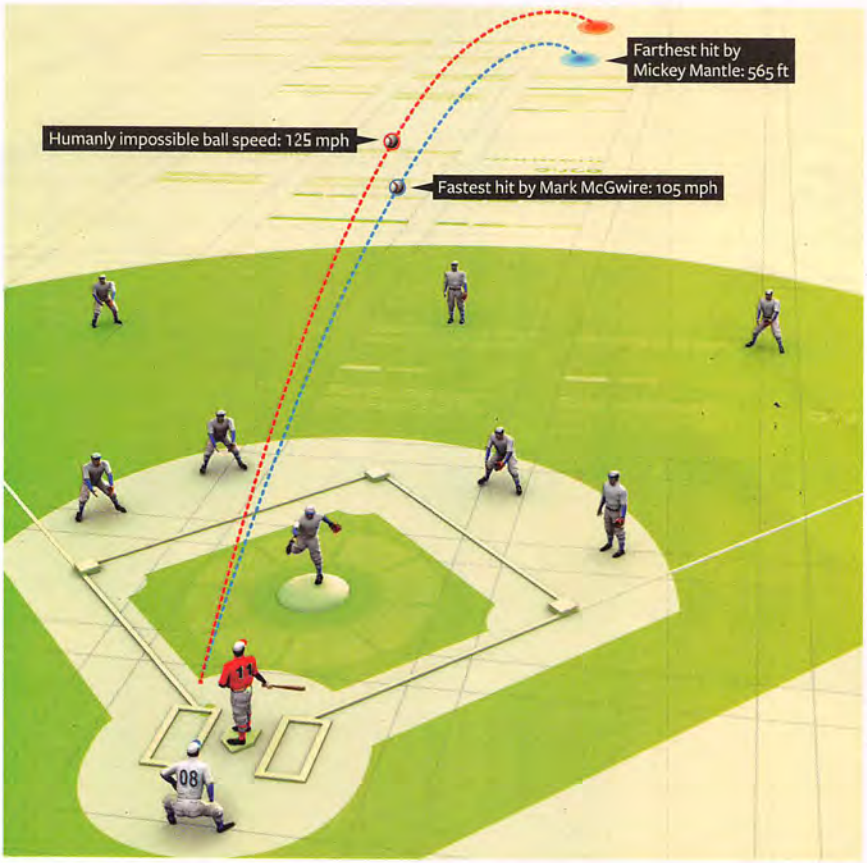
Note to Victoria's Secret: Your models look twice as hot when not decorated in Christmas balls.

PHOTOGRAPHS, BAUER-GRIFFIN.COM (MAIN); KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE.COM (INSET)

ASK MAXIM ?

The perils of Internet imagery, the reality of an all-robot army, packing liquids on a plane, and how America's pastime likes its balls! (Fast and far!)

"This should take care of your hamster's bad breath."



WHAT'S THE FASTEST AND FARTHEST A MAN CAN THROW OR HIT A BASEBALL?

Julian Moen, Grand Rapids, MI

Greats like Mickey Mantle and Joel Zumaya have set records for hitting 565-foot home runs and blasting 103 mph pitches, repeatedly, and, sadly, the human body maxes out around there. Despite the 'roid epidemic, the game will always have limits. Andrew Rex, a physicist at the University of Puget Sound, explains, "Even with developments in technology and strength training, there will always be air resistance." In fact, the harder you hit the ball, the *greater* the resistance of the air. When it comes to the mound, Glenn Fleisig, a biomechanical engineer at the American Sports Medicine Institute, says 100 mph is about the max due to "the limitations of human ligaments and tendons." So pray for bear-to-man shoulder transplant surgery, or come to terms with throwing like a puny human.

IF AN EXPLICIT IMAGE OF ME SHOWS UP ON THE INTERNET, CAN I BE FIRED?

Sean Mahaffey, Paramus, NJ

That shameful photograph of you high-fiving your buddies at a Tijuana donkey show can indeed get you canned. "The majority of workers are at-will employees," says employment attorney April Boyer. "And they can be fired with or without cause at any time." So if your boss gives you the boot and says an Internet photo precipitated the firing, you're screwed (unless you can prove it was a gender- or race-based decision). The other good news? "Once online, it will be nearly impossible to remove," says Boyer. So bite the bullet and delete that Facebook pic of you dry-humping Abe Lincoln at a wax museum, pronto! Trust us on this. We learned the hard way!

WILL I EVER BE ABLE TO FLY WITH MORE THAN THREE OUNCES OF LIQUID AGAIN?

Gary Perkinson, Akron, OH

We hope you're talking about your carry-on and not your bladder, Gary. But, yes, the ban is expected to lift soon—maybe even within the next year! Liquids were barred in 2006 when officials uncovered a plot to blow up planes using watery explosives that X-ray machines can't detect. The rule was loosened after explosives experts found that a one-quart bag packed with three-ounce bottles full of bang-bang juice could not down an aircraft. Hope for a shampoo-filled future comes in the form of 600 next-generation X-ray machines deployed around the nation. "Each can be upgraded to read a liquid's chemical signature will allow the machines to differentiate between a bottle of highly concentrated hydrogen peroxide and, say, a soda," says TSA spokesman Christopher White. Good news for Mountain Dew fans; bad news for your pathetic attempt to hide that merkin-dyeing kit.

Ann Coulter has lost way too much weight.

WHEN WILL WE HAVE AN ENTIRELY ROBOT ARMY?

Bobby Slonin, Sioux Falls, SD

Sorry, Bobby, but an all-android army is about as likely as you having a girlfriend. Stephen Thaler, founder of Imagination Engines, Inc., has played a prominent role in AI development for the U.S. military. His due date for a borg battalion? "If we're talking about joystick-controlled tanks, planes, and ships, right now." But Thaler points out that a totally robotic army isn't exclusively about technology, but also about "politics." The truth is, human boots on the ground are crucial to maintaining order in wartime. Besides battling kill-crazy insurgents in Iraq, our troops try to befriend the locals in the hopes that they won't plant yet another IED on a Baghdad highway. In other words, until we can build mechanized platoons made up of 72 virgin fembots, it's best to stick with flesh-and-blood grunts.

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PAGE 36 TV SHATNER HITS A NERVE
PAGE 36 FILM DE NIRO AND PACINO TEAM UP
PAGE 38 BOOKS MARVEL MAKES A LAST *STAND*
PAGE 40 24 HOURS DON CHEADLE GOES UNDER
PAGE 42 3/6/9 THE A-TEAM AND FERGIE AHEAD

LEADER OF THE PACK

Jeremy Piven and the *Entourage* gang are back for a fifth season.

Thanks to the writers strike, it's been a full year since we last saw Hollywood It boy Vincent Chase and his sponging buddies E, Turtle, and Drama living it up in L.A.—and in Colombia and France. Where will their wild ride take them next? We caught up with Jeremy Piven, the two-time Emmy winner behind Vince's hard-charging agent, Ari Gold, to find out.

WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE VINCE'S MOVIE BOMBED AT THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL?

You can't pop your wheelie forever. You gotta come down sometime. And Vince is coming down in a major way. He's hit rock bottom—grown this bushy beard and just said "fuck it" and gone to Mexico. This is, of course, impossible for someone like Ari to understand.

WE HEAR YOU ALL HEAD TO JOSHUA TREE TO GET A LITTLE PSYCHEDELIC, TOO.

Eric Roberts, playing himself, gives us mushrooms. And to watch a tightly wound guy like Ari eat 'shrooms and unravel is a treat.

DO YOU HAVE LOTS OF *ENTOURAGE* GROUPIES?

Guys come up to me, not girls. And their reference point for me is this really abrasive character; so they give that right back. It's pretty awkward when strangers slap you on the back when you're standing at a urinal.

HOW CLOSELY DOES YOUR LIFE MIRROR ARI'S?

Not at all. Because he's high-strung, people assume I'm in the belly of the beast, shoveling handfuls of pure Bolivian cocaine up my nose and barking. If I did that, my system would cease to exist. The craziest thing I do is the occasional espresso shot.—*Maria Fontoura*

"Scratch it out, bitch."

Entourage starts up September 7 on HBO, and *RocknRolla*, starring Jeremy Piven, hits theaters October 31.

PHOTOGRAPHS, STEVEN LIPPMAN/CORBIS OUTLINE (MAIN); HBO/EVERETT COLLECTION (INSET)

"I know a *great* rug store on Melrose (wink, wink)."

SHAT HAPPENS

Captain Kirk takes the talk show helm with *Shatner's Raw Nerve*.

For *Shatner's Raw Nerve*, coming soon to the Biography Channel, the master thespian probes celebrity guests for 30 awkward minutes. (Confirmed victims include Jimmy Kimmel, Jenna Jameson, and *Trek* pal Leonard Nimoy.) Here's what the Shat is bringing to the table.

Talent for Making People Cry

"My kids say if there's any family dinner that *doesn't* result in somebody crying, it's not a good dinner. They cry because it helps relieve them of a guilt or some onerous emotional burden. It's like a family tradition."

Lack of Planning

"I don't prepare my questions beforehand. I bone up on a guest's background, then use that information as stepping stones to a conversation. When we sit down to start an interview, I don't even have a first question in mind."

Disregard for Personal Boundaries

"I've arranged the chairs so the arms touch—I'm right on the edge of the guest's personal space. If you lean forward in the setup we have, you're too close. And I wanted an intimate setting, so we tape in a real home. At some point I want to be in a kitchen and bring the guest tea. Maybe a biscuit."—*Adam Winer*

Pacino was haunted by his inability to grow a mustache.

Partners in Crime

With *Righteous Kill*, Robert De Niro and Al Pacino continue to share more screen time with each project.

THE GODFATHER: PART II (1974)
Shared screen time: 0 minutes
The first time they split a marquee, the horrors of *SimOne* and *Stardust* were decades away. There was just one problem—they never share a scene.

HEAT (1995)
Shared screen time: 15 minutes
Cop Pacino is hot on bank robber De Niro's trail. Their game of cat and mouse leads to a single tête-à-tête in which they promise to kill each other.

RIGHTEOUS KILL (2008)
Shared screen time: 65 minutes
Two N.Y.C. detective partners track a killer who's taking out bad guys and—wait for it—just might be a cop. Prepare for a buffet of marinara melodrama.

ROOMIES! (COMING SOON TO THE CW)
Shared screen time: Every painful moment
A retired cop (Pacino) and aging goodfella (De Niro) are dumped by their wives and forced to share a tiny N.Y.C. apartment. So funny you'll fuggetaboutit!

"Take the gun, leave the wrinkle cream."

Film Checkup

Sifting through the cinematic heap.

	Estrogen overload	Testosterone overload	Subtitles sometimes needed	Horsepower, or boobs, given a boost	Constant reminder of gas prices	Does not play out Woody Allen's fantasies	OUR TAKE
Death Race In this update of the cult B movie, Jason Statham is an unjustly jailed pro driver who must win a no-rules race to earn...freedom!		✓		✓	✓	✓	Director Paul W. S. Anderson (*Alien vs. Predator*) is a flashy schlockmeister, but stealing the right parts from *Road Warrior* and *Running Man* may work out.
Vicky Cristina Barcelona Woody Allen's latest stars Penélope Cruz, Javier Bardem, and, of course, current muse Scarlett Johansson.	✓		✓				We're weary of seeing Allen's neuroses and pervy desires on-screen. And a romance? C'mon—wait, Cruz and Johansson make out? Greatest. Movie. Ever.
The House Bunny Anna Faris is booted from the Playboy mansion for turning 27 and finds work as a sorority housemother for ugly ducklings.	✓			✓		✓	Even Faris' toned midsection, on display for 90 percent of the movie, can't redeem this *Legally Blonde* ripoff's obligatory makeover montage scenes.
Babylon A.D. Adapted from a French novel (never a good sign), *Babylon* stars Vin Diesel as a mercenary intent on delivering human cargo overseas.		✓	✓			✓	Gravel Voice's last sci-fi "epic" (*The Chronicles of Riddick*) was a nonsensical mess. Hopefully, this futurefest will have less brawn and more brain.

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STAND BACK

Marvel Comics gets superscary with a graphic version of Stephen King's classic novel *The Stand*.

Do you freak out every time you feel the sniffles coming on? Then chances are you've read *The Stand*, Stephen King's 1978 novel about the end of the world...and what happens afterward. With a frighteningly realistic premise—a government project goes haywire and unleashes a highly infectious population-decimating virus—and a full roster of absorbing characters, it's widely considered King's masterpiece. And now it's heading where no 1,000-plus-page saga of viral Armageddon has gone before: your local comic shop, courtesy of a Marvel Comics graphic adaptation.

"It's a long, winding tour of the underbelly of the American dream," says Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, who will be scripting *The Stand*'s comic incarnation. Translating this ambitious read—one that centers on an apocalyptic battle between good and evil—to three-inch panels and dialogue bubbles is no small task. "It'll run about 30 issues, starting with the plague. Scary stuff, especially where the government is concerned."

Equally scary, perhaps, is the prospect that the comic could simply be a rehash of the novel. Not so. "There are scenes we will expand, like the journey through the corpse-choked Lincoln Tunnel. It's only a few pages long in the book, but we might give it its own issue. It's *so* horrifying." And what will the images add to the equation? Artist Mike Perkins promises chills aplenty. "Our series is rooted in reality," he says. "That makes it more visceral." Visceral enough, it seems, to please the notoriously picky King. Says Aguirre-Sacasa, "He's been signing off on everything, every step of the way."—*Sean T. Collins*

MAXIM RATING ●●●●○

Viral Effect *The Stand* has infected pop culture far and wide.

"Among the Living," Anthrax

The title track of the thrash band's third album is a five-minute CliffsNotes version of the huge novel, complete with lyrics: "With some help from [killer virus] Captain Trips, he'll bring the world down to its knees!"

28 Days Later

OK, fast zombies were pretty original. But the tense scene in which survivors navigate a corpse-strewn city tunnel is eerily similar to a part of *The Stand* where...a survivor navigates a corpse-strewn city tunnel.

Lost

If you cried when fan favorite British rocker Charlie drowned, blame *Lost*'s producers, who have repeatedly confirmed the hit series' debt to *The Stand*, including the novel's rock star hero, Larry Underwood.

You spent more money on your alien costume for the gamers' convention.

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> "I'LL BE GOING TO HEAVEN BECAUSE I ALREADY PUT IN MY RESERVATION."

DON CHEADLE

The Academy Award–nominated actor and star of this month's *Traitor* expounds on his final day.

SO HOW DO YOU WANT TO GO?
Sleeping would be good.

WILL YOU BE GOING TO HEAVEN OR HELL?
I'll be going to heaven, because I already put in my reservation. As expensive as it was, I really hope they don't revoke it when I get there.

IN *TRAITOR* YOU PLAY A POSSIBLE TURNCOAT. WHAT WAS YOUR BIGGEST BETRAYAL?
Probably that I didn't become a jazz musician. I'm trying to rectify that a little bit now.

OTHER THAN PAUL RUSESABAGINA IN *HOTEL RWANDA,* WHAT OTHER HISTORICAL HEROES DO YOU WISH YOU HAD PORTRAYED?
Not many. I'd rather do pretend people. You can make more stuff up.

IF YOU COULD COME BACK AND SPY ON SOMEONE WHO'S STILL ALIVE, WHO WOULD IT BE?
Tiger Woods probably. Just to see if at night he takes his head off and he's actually a robot.

WAS THERE ANYONE ON EARTH YOU WANTED TO PUNCH IN THE FACE?
There's a scrolling Rolodex of people I've wanted to punch in the face. I wouldn't mind being able to hit Dick Cheney. I don't want to go hunting with him afterward, though.

WHAT'S YOUR LAST MEAL?
Macaroni and cheese and chitterlings. People are going to be like, "Are you kidding me?"

WOULD YOU EVER CONSIDER BEING BURIED IN YOUR *BOOGIE NIGHTS* WARDROBE?
No, surprisingly, unless all my family that would've been coming to the funeral were already dead. That'd be the only way.

DO PORN STARS MAKE IT UP TO HEAVEN?
Every day.

THINKING ABOUT *OCEAN'S ELEVEN,* WHAT HEIST WOULD YOU LIKE TO PULL OFF BEFORE YOU DIE?
I'd like to rip off a major Hollywood studio for $500 billion and do every movie I want to do.

WHAT'S THE WILDEST THING YOU EVER DID WHILE YOU WERE ALIVE?
Being chased by a rhino on foot was pretty uncomfortable and very wild...and almost fatal.

WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING OVER YOUR CASKET?
Nice suit.

GOT ANY LAST WORDS?
"He rang it all out."

Traitor sneaks into theaters nationwide August 27.

PHOTOGRAPHS: DANIELLE LEVITT/CORBIS OUTLINE (CHEADLE); CAMERA PRESS/CAROLINE ELUYEMI/RETNA, THOMAS DOBNER 2004/ALAMY, WEBCAT/ALAMY (BACKGROUND)

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GET PSYCHED FOR

Youth in Revolt

The big-screen adaptation of C.D. Payne's cult comic novel follows teen Nick Twisp's misadventures, such as faking a friend's suicide and attending school in drag. With Michael Cera in the lead, this reeks of quirky awesomeness.

Killzone 2

Finally delivering on the gorgeous graphics promised by the original, *Killzone* 2 takes a giant leap forward. New weapons, new story, environmental damage effects, and more will have fans locking and loading until they chafe.

Year One

Life of Brian meets *Caddyshack* in this Harold Ramis laffer depicting the trials of two lazy hunter-gatherers (Jack Black, Michael Cera) banished from their village. Their journey also features McLovin and your future dream girl, Olivia Wilde.

STAY AWAY FROM

Secret Millionaire

Fox's latest reality travesty transports wealthy folks from their posh mansions to the inner city. Do they learn what it's like to be poor? We sincerely doubt it, considering the richies live like paupers for only 10 days.

Spring Break in Acapulco

Four swimmers have died, been wounded, or gone missing off the coast of Mexico near bikini mecca Acapulco this year, courtesy of bull sharks that have developed a taste for man from Mob-dumped corpses. Hello, Topeka!

Sheer Shirts

As worn by wily femme fatales, see-through tops can be irresistible. But now couture insiders predict the emergence of trendy translucent shirts for men next summer. We're hoping tube-top suits aren't the next step.

TIME WILL TELL

Black Eyed Peas Album

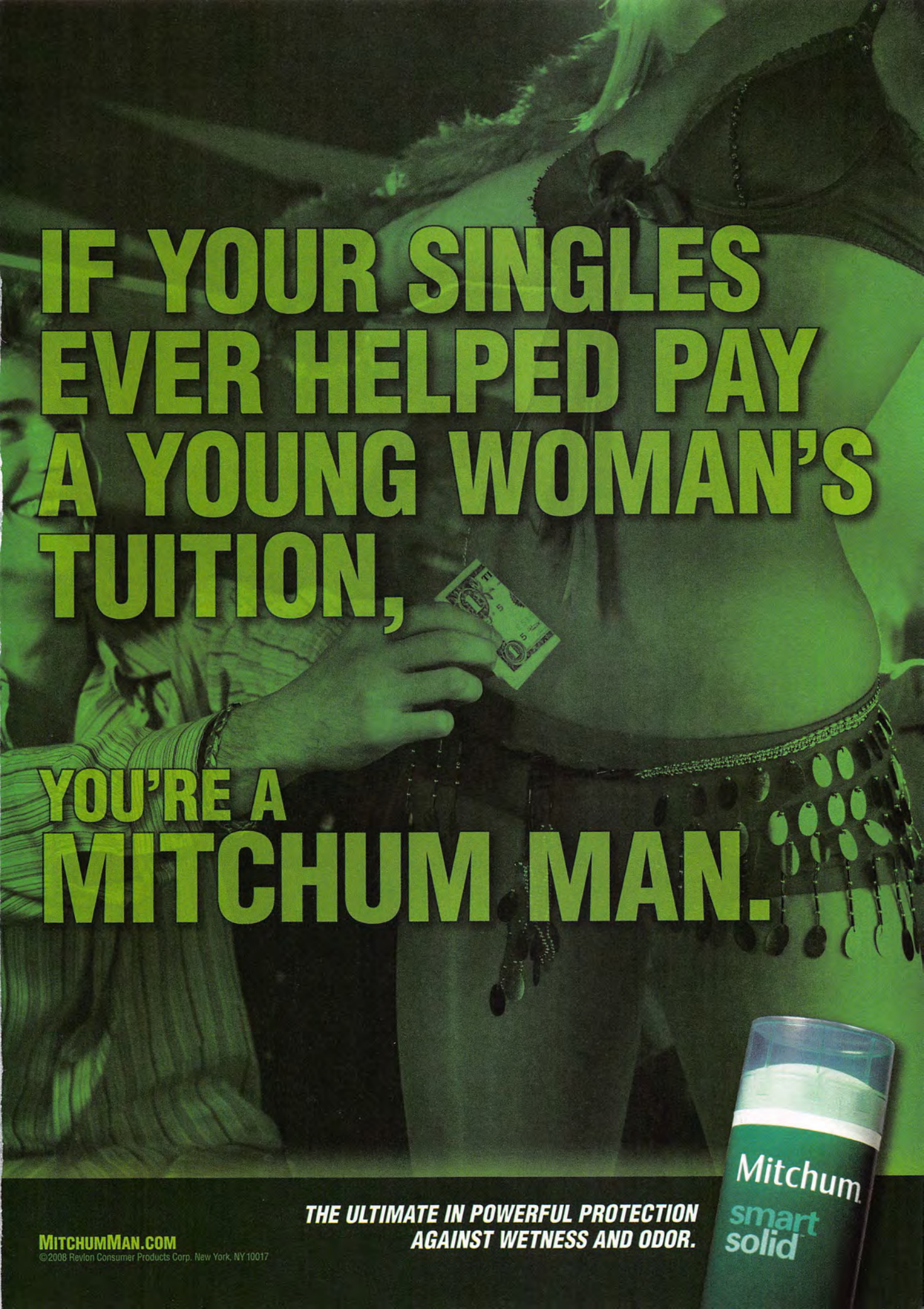
"It has to change," will.i.am says of the Peas' new sound. "We left size 9, coming back size 15." But after their self-indulgent solo projects and odd shoe-size metaphors, let's hope the album doesn't phunk with our ears *too* much.

Sit Down, Shut Up

Boasting a brain trust of *Arrested Development* and *Simpsons* talent, this animated series depicts teachers whose problems trump their students' needs. But will it fit into Fox's Seth MacFarlane–dominated Sunday cartoon block?

The A-Team

Rumor has it this feature-length remake of the show that defined '80s cheese TV will feature Bruce Willis as Hannibal and Woody Harrelson as Murdock. While they seem like slam dunks, can Ice Cube fill Mr. T's mohawk?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Mild Sexual Themes

PC DVD-ROM SOFTWARE

PLAYSTATION 3

XBOX 360 LIVE

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CAMAR-OH!

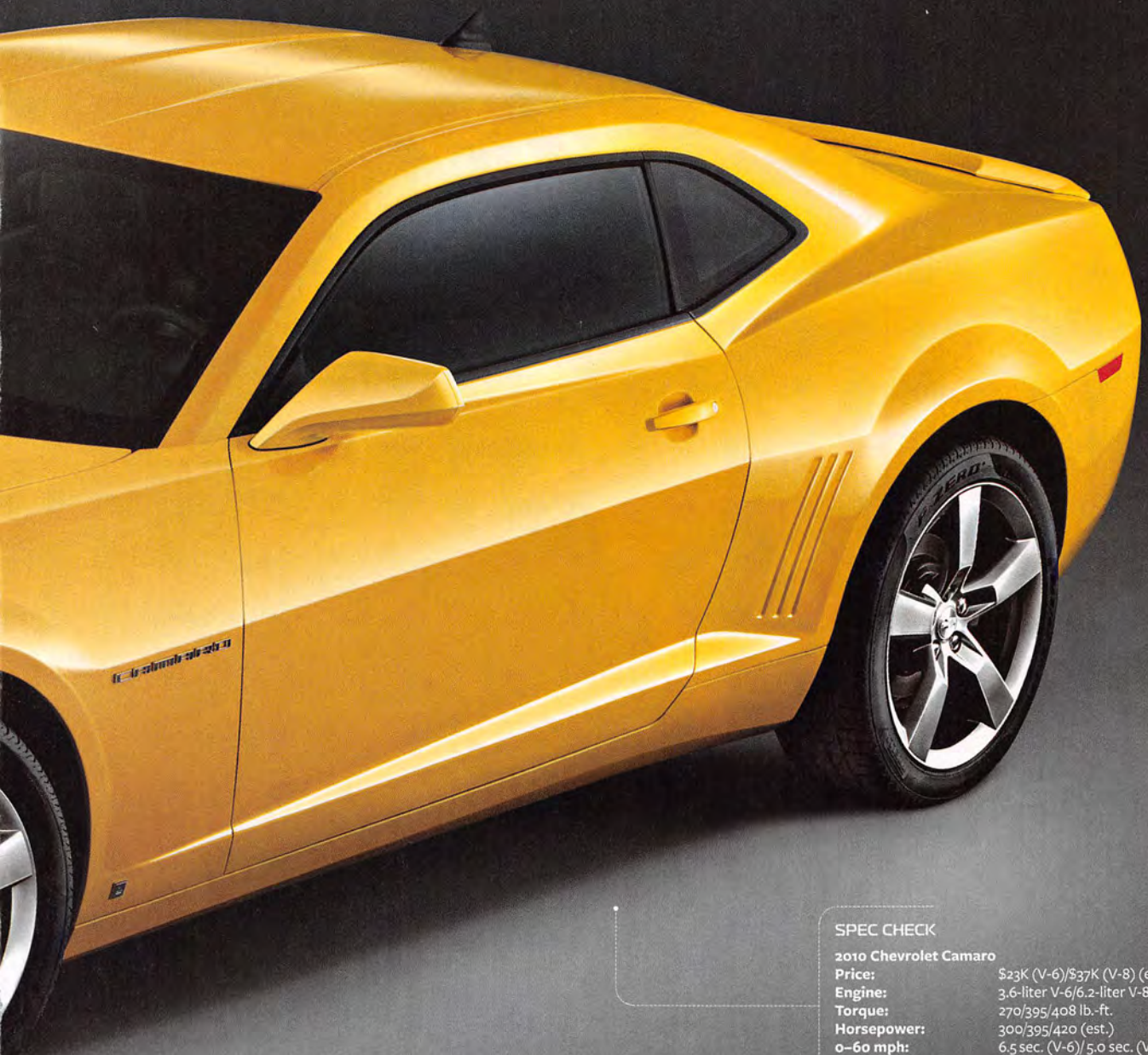
Chevy revs up the pony car wars with a coupe that's got old muscle and modern brains. Here's your first look at its hotness.

If you ever thought a headband and mustache combo was high fashion, there's probably a Chevy Camaro in your past. Dig up your meatball-stained tank top: In early 2009 GM is re-gassing the American icon. Alas, the new Camaro won't have much in common with the mid-'70s junkers or the bass-pumping starships of the '80s and '90s. In its fifth gen, the Camaro is a true 21st-century muscle coupe dressed in a retro-inspired getup. It joins similarly updated "pony cars" like the Ford Mustang and the recently renewed Dodge Challenger. But while the coupe shares little structurally with its ancestors, it stays truer to the 1960s ideal, with a crisp design that draws on the peak of Camarodom. Just try to resist hanging a feather roach clip from the rearview mirror.

1 Base Steal
Back in the '80s, the base-level V-6 Camaro was known for its inchworm-like acceleration. The new Camaro's 3.6-liter V-6 makes a respectable 300 horsepower—more than many V-8s. It does so with modern tech like spark-ignition direct injection and variable valve timing, which optimize combustion and maximize your burnout abilities in the day-care parking lot.

2 Pony Show
Need more power? The six-speed stick version gets GM's LS3 V-8, producing around 420 horsepower. And the six-speed automatic sports a 395 hp V-8 fitted with an active fuel management system, which uses only four cylinders under light-load conditions to improve fuel economy, so you get to anger Saudi oil barons with every mile.

3 The Ride
The modern Camaro gets suitably bitchin' running gear, including an independent multilink rear suspension, traction and stability control, and antilock brakes. The top-line SS model will get brakes from Brembo, which also supplies Ferrari, Porsche, and Aston Martin. That means the car should slice through turns like a sports car and not a half-inflated lifeboat.



SPEC CHECK

2010 Chevrolet Camaro

Price:	$23K (V-6)/$37K (V-8) (est.)
Engine:	3.6-liter V-6/6.2-liter V-8
Torque:	270/395/408 lb.-ft.
Horsepower:	300/395/420 (est.)
0–60 mph:	6.5 sec. (V-6)/5.0 sec. (V-8)
Top speed:	More than 150 mph (V-8)
Available:	Early 2009

4 The Style
For visual references and Camaro DNA, designers looked to the classic 1969 model, the high-water mark of Camaro styling. The interior gets updated features like a heads-up display and deep-set dash gauges ringed with halolike ambient lighting, based on the '69 gauges. But forget about getting that T-top tan. The Camaro coupe will come with an optional sunroof only.

5 Oz Wizards
The new Camaro may be American by attitude, but its roots are international. Camaro buyers anticipating effortless donuts should thank GM's engineers in Australia. In between getting pissed on Victoria Bitter, the Aussies developed the Camaro's rear-wheel-drive chassis, which is an updated version of the one in Pontiac's G8 GT. —*Mike Spinelli*

WI-FI ROCKS!

Hear new tunes now with these Net-connected music devices.

Sick of plugging in your 'Pod only to hear your "breakup" playlist for the 94th time? Grab one of these magic music boxes and you'll be able to rock the house with a steady stream of new music, thanks to their ability to connect to your wireless network. Turn 'em on and find a new jam. Your neighbors will thank you.

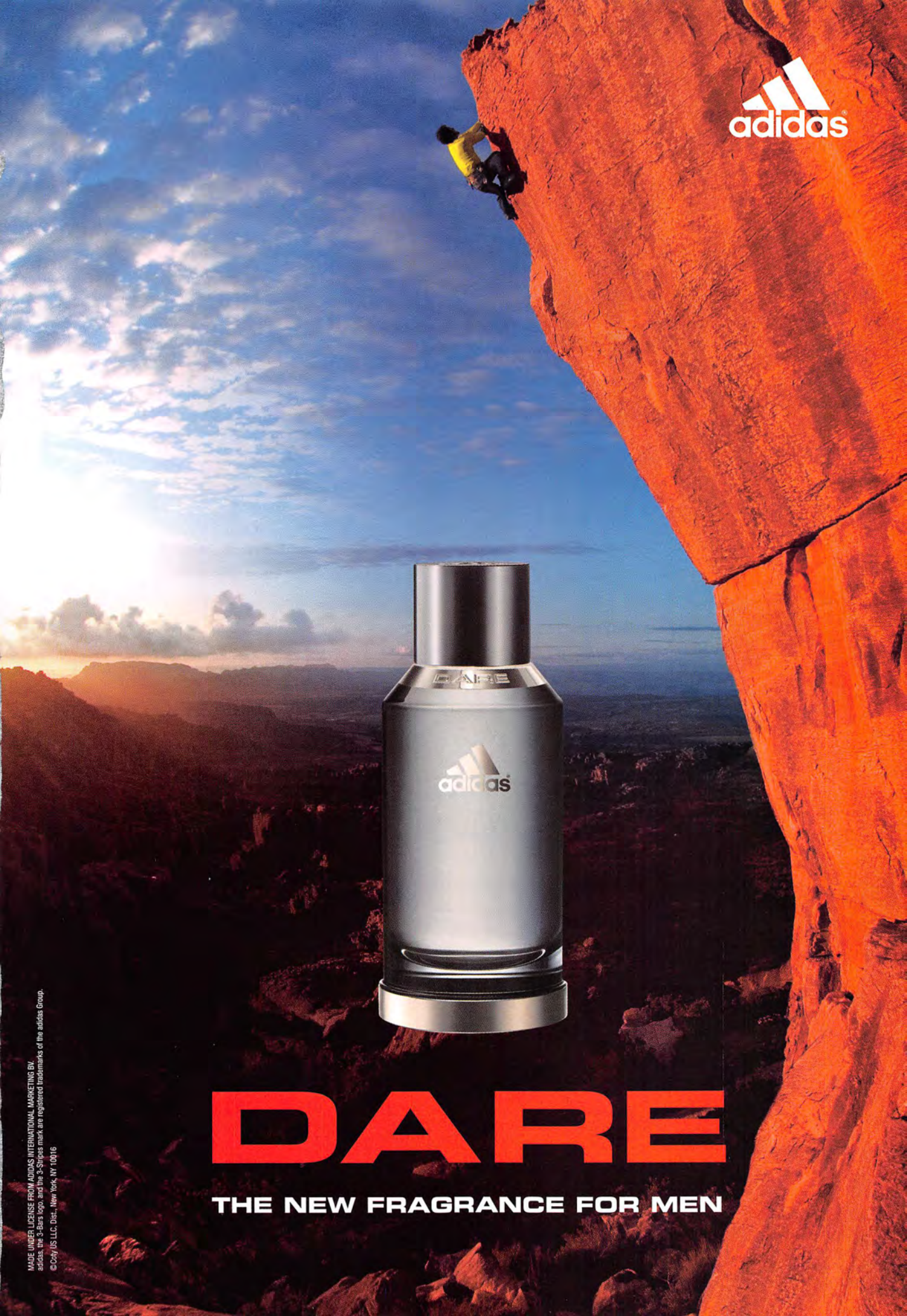
1 Sonos BU150
Bring the noise to every single one of the 32 rooms in your palace, sire. This system makes it stupid simple to listen to your digital downloads, to Internet or satellite radio, or to the music on a subscription service (like Napster) in any room of your house that has a tinier-than-ever zone player unit (two are included in the new 150 bundle). The remote allows you to sync the whole house to rock to Van Halen, while you lip-sync to ABBA in the boudoir.
We dig: Seamless setup, sound quality up to snuff for all but the creepiest audiophiles.
We don't: Expensive. Like all these systems, it won't play the DRM'ed songs you bought from iTunes.
$999, *sonos.com*

2 Slim Devices Squeezebox Duet
This is basically a less pricey, more techy version of the Sonos system. Like the Sonos, the kit's sleek remote has a color screen that helps you easily navigate through gigs of digital music while playing it in different rooms. But if your collection consists of the Coldplay catalog and you're tired of guests crying, subscribe to a service like Pandora, and the remote becomes an Internet jukebox at your fingertips, allowing access to millions of songs. The kit comes with one receiver and one remote; you can add up to eight receivers ($150).
We dig: Cheaper than the Sonos—with the same great sound quality.
We don't: Long, painful setup.
$399, *slimdevices.com*

3 Tivoli Audio NetWorks
Tivoli's classy hardwood-clad table radios have been making bachelors and their pads look smart for years. Their new NetWorks model one-ups 'em all. When your overnight guest flips it on to find it tuned to a live Nepalese disco station, she'll think you're about 10 times more worldly than you are. The tabletop tuner's secret to locking in far-off stations? It accesses your (or your neighbor's) wi-fi network to lock in thousands of stations all across the planet, both Net-based and terrestrial. Tune in, Tokyo!
We dig: Crisp design, bangin' sound.
We don't: Our unit had a wimpy wi-fi range, and we wish the Internet radio song titles were displayed.
$600, *tivoliaudio.com*

4 Philips Streamium NP1100/37
This simple black box connects to your stereo and wirelessly links in to your PC's music collection, so you can do the rusty birdcage to your digital downloads in the den without having to hang out in Pa's home office. The included remote doesn't have a big navigable screen like the Sonos' and Squeezebox's (sad!), but you can still use it with the receiver's screen to peruse your own files, lock in an Internet radio station, or search through the seemingly endless tracks on Rhapsody's subscription service.
We dig: It's cheaper than the other systems and has cool retro graphics.
We don't: It's not Mac compatible.
$149, *usa.philips.com*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ASTERISM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WHACK ATTACK

Which tennis rackets serve the fastest, stroke the straightest, and shatter the hardest? We had four amateur players McEnroe the hell outta four of the hottest new models.

HEAVY HITTER
Babolat Aeropro Drive, $185

Lowdown: Designed to simulate an airplane wing when swung, the Drive suits fast, aggressive players who hit hard—like its most famous user, Rafael Nadal.
Speed: Our four testers averaged just 66 mph.
Accuracy: Our best player hit our cardboard Roger Federer cutout with great accuracy (see our test methods below). "I feel like an assassin," he said. But all told, we averaged the lowest strike ratio with this one.
Smash: Fair. The racket cracked after just three strikes.
Verdict: Like the Tour, the Drive might fare better in the hands of professionals. "When you hit it right, it's a blast, but when you miss, you miss big," said one tester. Our most advanced amateur said this: "If you can handle its power, it could definitely kill Federer. Can I handle its power? Nope."
RATING ●●●◐○

FAT FACE
Head MicroGel Monster, $160

Lowdown: This 9.9 oz. racket boasts the test's largest head (102 square inches), silicone gel in the frame to cushion impact, and a torsion bar in the neck for additional stability—all features that help even the wildest players keep the ball in the court.
Speed: Fast. Our amateur testers' serves averaged 68.75 mph, the second highest.
Accuracy: Low. Testers averaged a strike ratio of just 10 percent at the flat Federer. "I want him to feel my pain but I can't hit him," said one.
Smash: Tops. Five blows on a hard court left only scratches on the racket. "Am I not a man?" he said. Then the Monster finally cracked on swing six.
Verdict: This Head is fast and durable, ideal for the player who craves a speedier serve and has anger management issues.
RATING ●●●●○

SMALL WONDER
Yonex RQiS-1 Tour, $209

Lowdown: The choice of the number one–ranked (and supersexy) Ana Ivanovic features a squarish frame, which theoretically embiggens its sweet spot. It's targeted toward advanced players who can handle its smaller (95-square-inch) frame.
Speed: OK, at just a freeway-legal 65 mph.
Accuracy: Decent. Testers gave Federer some nice hits. "Roger looks a little flat out there," said one triumphant tester.
Smash: Strong. After three strikes on the ground the warped racket showed give but still had some life to live, though it began to resemble a Möbius strip. After the sixth spike, we had to retire her.
Verdict: "The face isn't as big, which doesn't favor your average player," observed one tester. "It's small and tight. Some guys like that." Those guys being, um, better players.
RATING ●●●◐○

BALANCED ATTACK
Prince O3 Speedport Black, $220

Lowdown: Thanks to aerodynamic holes puncturing the frame, Prince claims this racket slices through the air 24 percent faster than traditional ones. That means more power, whether you play like Andy Roddick or Andy Dick.
Speed: Fastest. Our testers averaged 70.3 mph serves. "The 'swhoosh' sound this racket makes is badass," said one.
Accuracy: Tops. "F#@$ Federer!" said one tester. Three of our testers were most accurate using the Speedport, and our cardboard pal sustained damage to the face and groin.
Smash: Pathetic. On the first whack, the frame broke in three places. We blame the otherwise ingenious holes.
Verdict: Winner! Assuming you don't have Ilie Nastase's temper, it's a dream. Said one tester: "The ball jumps off the racket and goes where you want it."—*Steve Mazzucchi*
RATING ●●●●◐

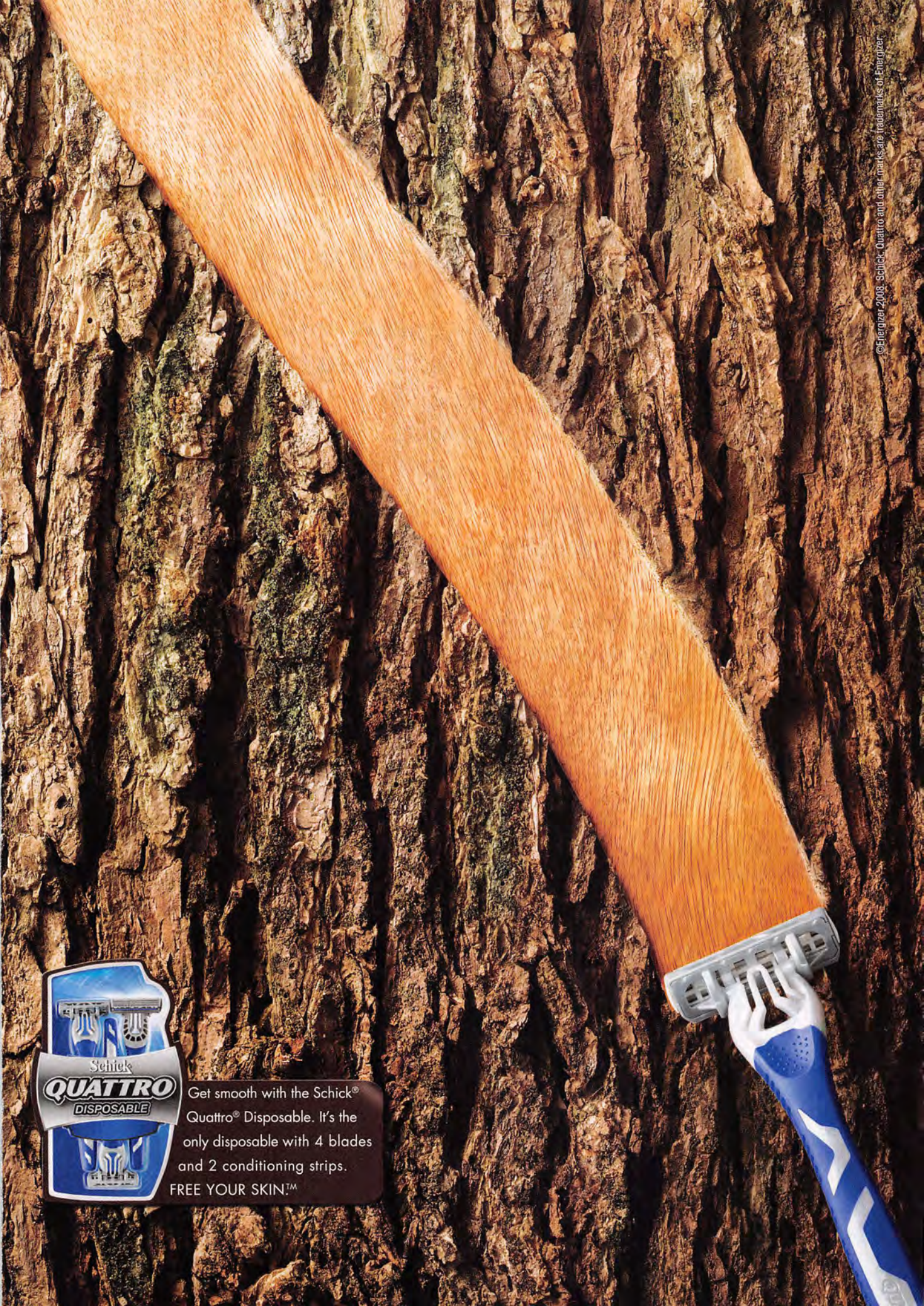
MAXIM OUR PICK

OUR SCIENTIFIC METHODS:

1. **Speed** Our four testers fired serves toward a radar gun. Speeds were averaged.
2. **Accuracy** We smashed forehand volleys at the smirking face of a life-size Roger Federer cutout.
3. **Durability** In a fit of McEnroeian, self-serving rage, we whacked the rackets until they shattered.

PHOTOGRAPHS, MARIUS BUGGE (TESTERS)

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SATOSHI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PHOTOGRAPH, ARTHUR BELEBEAU; STYLING, KAREN SHAPIRO; HAIR, MICHAEL SILVA AT THE ARTIST LOFT USING REDKEN; MAKEUP, SACHA AT THE ARTIST LOFT USING SMASHBOX; PHOTOGRAPH (TV), SATOSHI

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SPACE FACES

Wrap your wrist in a far-out, high-tech watch and it's always attention time!

1

CIRCLE JERK

Nooka Zirc, $350

Traditional timing displays are for old people who like to follow rules. Designer Matthew Waldman doesn't—that's why he invented the Nooka Zirc, an oversize rectangular watch that busts out a whole new graphic method of timekeeping. Each of the 12 dots represents an hour; the horizontal bar below it slowly fills as the minutes of your reckless youth pass by. *nooka.com*

2

MOON MAN

Omega Alaska Project Limited Edition, $5,500

In the '70s, engineers designed this radical red watch for astronauts; its anodized aluminum casing endures extreme temp variations of up to 400 degrees in space. Newly reissued with the classic Omega 1861 chrono in a limited edition of 1,970, the awesomely astral ticker should help you make it through Space Mountain, even if the A/C breaks down. *omegawatches.com*

3

DOT DOT DASH

Tokyoflash Tibida, $139

This binary beastie tells time using 42 LEDs that thrillingly light up like a scoreboard on the fritz. Wearers can set the upper and lower displays to tell time three different ways; the dots can either display numerals or represent time's progression in minutes. Either way, you can always get out of boring conversations by pointing out that it's time to go. *tokyoflash.com*

4

VIRUS TIME

Tokyoflash Infection, $130

The curious organic pattern that goes from strap to face on this freakish future watch is a replica of a fever! And you just might get sick trying to figure out what time it is. There are 27 LEDs: The 12 reds denote the hour; 11 yellows represent five minute segments, and four green lights show single minutes. The above watch reads 4:54. Compute? *tokyoflash.com*

5

STEAMPUNK'D

Casio G-Shock G8100A-5, $99

This timekeeper will catch every eye in your vector, while tempering your shiny techno lust with some rusty hues. We dig the porthole design, with its bronze-color cladding, harsh geometry, and old-school LCD readout. The rugged G-Shock specs should make it last for decades and help you weather up to 200 meters of melting glacier water. *gshock.com*

6

GREEN MACHINE

LIP Diode, $355

Before Daft Punk and *Tron*, French brand LIP's 1970s watches looked to the future and ruled the street with some of the earliest LED timepiece displays available. Those coveted classics have all been snapped up by watch geeks, but after 33 years the brand is finally reintroducing their famed Diode model to the U.S. Snap one up and start doing the French robot. *watchismo.com*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SATOSHI

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BY GILLIAN TELLING

When you're this hot, who cares if you can find your keys?

Necessary Roughness

Every lady loves a gentleman. But in the bedroom, it might be time to drop the "gentle."

Recently, a girlfriend was telling me about the best sex of her life. Did her story involve a roaring fire and strawberries soaked in champagne? Hours of foreplay with her boyfriend lightly kissing her kneecaps while Josh Groban played in the background? Not exactly. Instead, it went something like this: After heavy flirtations at a party, she and her guy had just walked through the doorway of her apartment when he suddenly grabbed her from behind and told her how hot she was. Bending her over a hall table, he hiked up her miniskirt, yanked her panties down, and went at her. It was feverish, gruff, dirty—and a huge turn-on. She said it only took five minutes before they both collapsed in a satisfied heap on the floor.

Based on my own experiences, I can't say I was surprised. And in talking with other women, I've recognized a trend. For years men have been conditioned by bullshit gurus like Dr. Phil and books like *The Sensitive Guy's Guide to Sensitive Love* to get in touch with their gentler, more romantic side in the bedroom—or, more accurately, to get in touch with *ours*. But somewhere along the way (maybe around the same time men started showing up at our salons for biweekly waxes), attentive sex morphed into... *wimpy* sex. Last February one Seattle woman got so fed up with all the sexual kowtowing that she resorted to posting an angry rant on Craigslist that was picked up by dozens of blogs and viewed by thousands. The title: "Just fucking fuck me, already." A sample line: "We've been kissing for a half-hour and your hand keeps grazing my ass. That's nice, but it's time to move forward. Get on top of me."

The ultimate truth: Every now and then, what women want in bed is for our men to be *men*. That is, rather than spending five minutes breathing on our earlobes, waiting for us to guide your mouth elsewhere, be decisive; take control. Of course, there's a way to be aggressive that's incredibly sexy and a way to do it that's creepy and terrifying. In the name of bringing maximum pleasure to her and minimum jail time to you, I'm going to teach you the sexy way—with the help of an army of women all clamoring for a return of the manly man.

What's Love Got to Do With It?

The first thing to understand about rough sex is that it isn't really rough; it's passionate. The subtext is that we're so unbelievably sexy that you have to take us however, whenever, and wherever you want. After all, the hottest sex is rarely sweet—it's primal and animalistic. And while romance certainly has its place in the bedroom, elaborate stabs at it can sometimes come off as strained or even silly. "After a day of exchanging dirty e-mails, my boyfriend called to tell me he couldn't wait for me to get home that night," says Carly*, a 28-year-old grant writer. "I expected him to attack me the second I walked through the door, but instead I found him waiting in the bedroom with about 30 candles lit. He handed me a glass of wine—rosé, no less—and then proceeded to strum his guitar and sing a song he'd written for me. I prayed I was having some kind of waking nightmare, but no. It was real."

Even when it comes to what *you* ask of *us* in the bedroom, we secretly hope your base desire is for the fast and furious over the slow and soft. "I once asked my boyfriend what ▶▶

*NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHIL MUCCI

his favorite thing was that I did sexually," says Audrey, a 27-year-old copy editor. "He said, 'I love the way you hold me.' He might as well have tucked his junk between his legs while he was saying it."

When it comes to turning her on, sometimes a display of raw aggression can go much further than gauzy romance. "It's my boyfriend's attitude during rougher sex that turns me on the most," says Charlotte, a 31-year-old fashion buyer. "He's more demanding, he flips me around in different positions, he talks dirty. The whole thing is so different from his usual sweet demeanor that I love it." As with borscht-belt humor, the key here is all in the delivery. When tossing your girl around like she's a rag doll, don't ask permission. "Turn over so I can look at your ass while we do it" is a far cry from "Honeybear, would you mind turning on your tummy so we can do it from behind, please?" But don't try taking the same liberties outside the sexual arena. Suddenly bossing your woman around the Piggly Wiggly won't win you any points when you get home.

Take It to the Limit

How much bullying you can do in the bedroom depends on how much she trusts you. (Right off the bat, that means rough stuff is best suited to couples—not drunken strangers in the bathroom at a wedding reception. Got it?) Before moving straight to bareknuckle boxing, it's best to test the physical waters with a few lighter moves, like spanking and hair-pulling. Lisa, a 28-year-old yoga teacher, says she likes having her ass smacked "not so hard that it leaves a handprint, but hard enough that it stings a little." The worst possible offense? A light, apologetic pat. "I once had a guy tap my ass cheek like he was absent-mindedly keeping the beat to a song on his steering wheel," says Marlene, a 26-year-old engineer. "If you're gonna do it, for the love of God, *go* for it."

Similarly, most women said a nice, firm tug on their hair drove them wild instantly. "My boyfriend does it when I'm giving him head or when he's doing me from behind," says Jess, a 29-year-old bartender. "It makes me feel like a porn star." One caveat: It's best to pull closer to the base of her head than to yank at the ends of her hair—tears of pain are not the goal.

Most women said they loved when a guy did whatever he could to get to them—and *into* them—as quickly as possible. That means not taking the time to seductively undo every last button on her blouse. Instead, screw like zombies have taken over the planet and you two are humankind's last chance for survival. Yank things up, pull them down—and if you hit any roadblocks, just go right through. "There's nothing that kills a mood faster than having a guy struggle to get my pants off, apologizing and giggling like a seventh grader," says Alicia, a 30-year-old photographer. "Just pull my bra down, don't even bother taking it off. Push my panties aside. It's kind of awesome having sex with some clothes on—except for socks."

And when you get to the penetration part, don't be precious about it. The manly move that was almost universally cited as the biggest turn-on was a rigorous jackhammering. "I need to just be grabbed and fucked really hard to get off," says Katie, a 26-year-old pharmaceutical rep. "Some girls like gentle lovemaking, where the guy enters really slowly and moves rhythmically, but it's not for me." Joanna, a 27-year-old banker, agrees: "I enjoy foreplay, but if I'm really horny, it can actually be distracting." Once in a while, we all like an old-fashioned pounding, where you're moving at speeds usually reserved for German porn. But if she lets out any version of "ow" instead of "oh," make sure she's OK. Remember, you're in your bedroom, not Herr Dieter's House of Pain.

Game Over

Warning! There are a couple of moves that can bring an intense, no-holds-barred encounter to a screeching halt. Under no circumstances during rough sex may you "surprise" her by suddenly coming in through the back door. And when it comes to bondage, anything beyond tying her hands to the headboard with a scarf could be construed as hostage-taking. Lastly, asphyxiation is a huge no-no—unless manslaughter is also on your agenda.

With the exception of those off-limits acts, the bedroom is your castle, and you're the king. So it's time to man up. Watch Burt Reynolds movies. Stop plucking your eyebrows. Do whatever it takes to remind yourself that women are drawn to all the things that make you different from us—your animal strength, your monosyllabic grunting, your charming cavemanness. If you want us, just take off our skirts—and yours—and go for it. ●

Walk on the Wimpy Side

Some guys have forgotten how to be men in the sack.

"I slept with a guy who used to be really fat and still had body issues, so he refused to take his shirt off in bed. If I even tugged at it, he'd get upset." **Carolyn, 31**

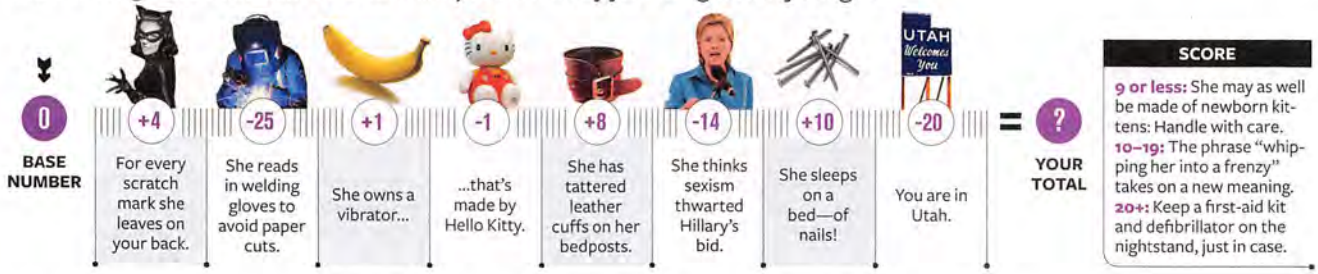
"My old boyfriend cried once after sex because he said it was so good." **Cesca, 27**

"Every time we finished sex, my ex would curl up like a fetus and ask me to spoon him. I never got to be spooned, not even once. Looking back, I can't believe I fucked that guy—repeatedly." **Susie, 25**

"An ex was supposed to pull out during sex, and he didn't. When I freaked, he said he was trying to get me pregnant so I wouldn't leave him." **Bessma, 30**

The Roughalyzer

Use this tough-ass calculator to determine just how crazy you can get with your girl.



SCORE

9 or less: She may as well be made of newborn kittens: Handle with care.
10–19: The phrase "whipping her into a frenzy" takes on a new meaning.
20+: Keep a first-aid kit and defibrillator on the nightstand, just in case.

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BY MARC SPITZ

The Great American Rock Band

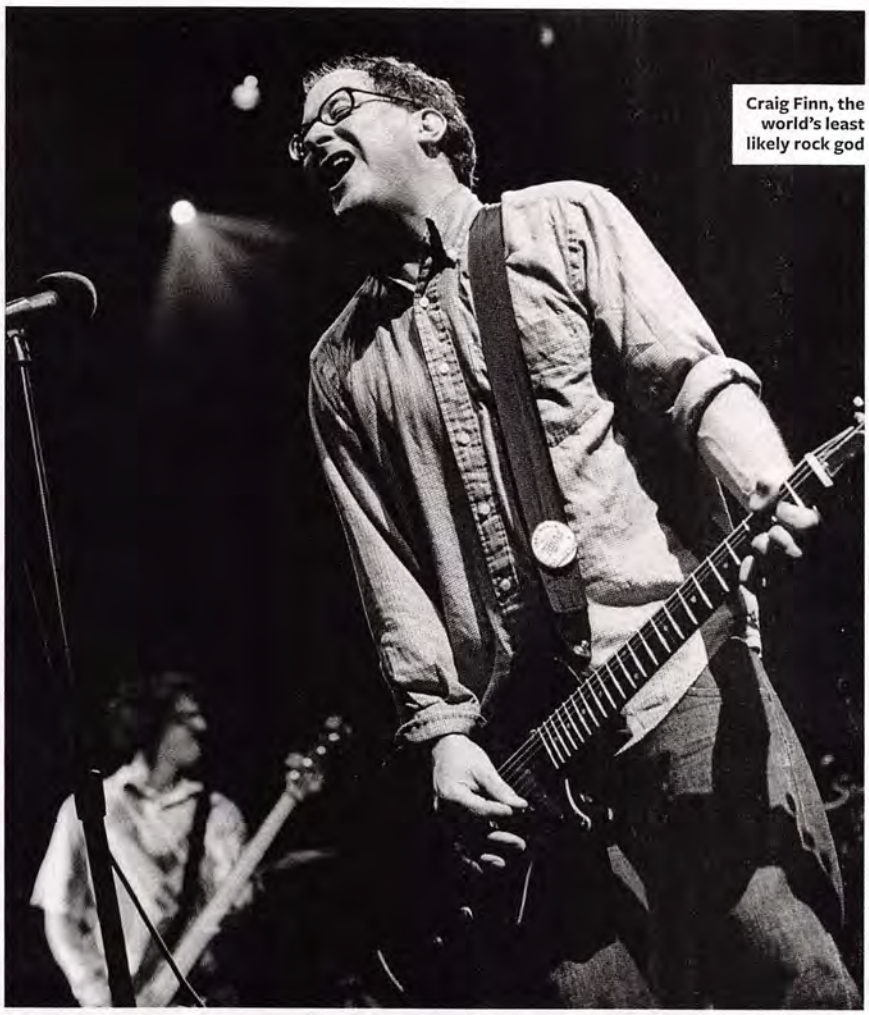
Five reasons the hard-charging members of the Hold Steady became 2008's rock saviors.

As local heroes the Hold Steady prepare to take the stage for their first show of the summer, things are looking dire. With lightning flashing and torrential rain pounding down, the crowd at Brooklyn's McCarren Park Pool begins to wonder if the band will even go on. Then, without warning, the clouds open, the sun comes out, and the five proudly schlubby members of the Hold Steady launch into "Constructive Summer," the first song on their excellent new album: "Me and my friends are like/The drums on 'Lust for Life'/We pound it out on floor toms/Our psalms are sing-along songs." From the first line the frenzied crowd is indeed singing along; there's clearly nowhere else they would rather be.

Every once in a while a rock band comes along that captures the spirit of their times, and in the hot summer of 2008 that band is the Hold Steady. Like a hard-rocking Frankenstein's monster mixing vivid, novelistic lyrics of teenage angst with teeth-rattling punk and classic-rock riffs, this gang of lumpen, oft-drunken thirtysomething music geeks have staked their claim to the title of best rock band in America. With a message that seems to say, "Listen to this. This is rock'n'roll. We, the people, invented this shit! Come on!" the band has more pure American spirit than Kid Rock, John Mellencamp, and Toby Keith combined.

"I didn't know this would be the band that would take me around the world," lead singer and lyricist Craig Finn, 36, says over black coffee in a café by the band's Greenpoint, Brooklyn rehearsal space. "But as I travel, I definitely feel more and more American." This year will be remembered for many things: an economy on the rocks, an era-defining presidential election, a country in flux. And with their fourth album, *Stay Positive*—an 11-song collection that's guaranteed to top year-end best-of lists—the Hold Steady have a genuine opportunity to become cultural ambassadors to the world.

It's heady stuff for the ultimate good-time bar band, whose sloppy, drunken shows have become legendary with a fiercely loyal fan base, and whose intensely literate albums—with an outlook that's both bleakly honest and full of hope and redemption—reward repeated listening. And though they are hardly household names, the band has gone further than anyone, including their own members, ever expected.



Craig Finn, the world's least likely rock god

"We weren't very ambitious," admits guitarist Tad Kubler. "When we started, we thought, Maybe we'll play some shows, and if we play some shows, maybe we should have something that people can take home. So we made a record." Then they made three more records, each one a gloriously debauched, achingly sad, and authentically rocking journey through the American suburban teenage experience. The next president should look the other way at lyrics like "Went down with some crust punk junk/And woke up with a straight edge band," and just give them a medal. Here are five reasons why we salute these guys as the Great American Rock Band circa 2008.

1. They look like you. Or worse.

Physically speaking, the Hold Steady are American the way Oprah's audience is American, the way the guy who put this magazine in your mailbox is American. Finn is short and slight with a receding hairline and thick glasses. Kubler looks like that guy from your English lit class in college. Bassist Galen Polivka resembles an unpretentious bartender (when not playing bass in the Hold Steady, he actually is an unpretentious bartender). With his short hair and leather jacket, Bobby Drake could be the drummer in any other New York rock band, making him the odd man out. Only keyboardist Franz Nicolay, from New England rather ▶▶

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24-HOUR
STYLE
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than the Midwest like his band mates, has anything that could be called a "look": black from head to toe, a cloth cap, and a waxed mustache. "We know that having no image is an image," says Finn.

2. They have a blue-collar work ethic.

The Hold Steady sound alternately like a punk band playing classic rock or a classic rock band playing punk, a dichotomy that goes back to Finn's Minnesota childhood. A devout Catholic kid with bad vision and no girl prospects, Finn began playing guitar at 12 and spent his teen years going to hardcore shows and worshiping Twin Cities indie stars the Replacements as well as Bob Dylan and the Band. After studying communications at Boston College, Finn moved back home and formed the new-wavey Lifter Puller, which, despite becoming a genuine local sensation, was met with indifference outside the Twin Cities. "I was exhausted," he says. "And I was excited to just try to make a decent paycheck." Married and nearing 30, he settled in Brooklyn, and took an office job at a music Web site just before the info market crash. "I got there right at the end of the boom," he laughs. "A year earlier, it would have been nice." A year earlier, however, and there might not have been a Hold Steady.

After forming as a reaction to all the skinny-jeaned, faux-hawked hipsters swamping the Brooklyn music scene, the Hold Steady recorded their first album, 2004's *Almost Killed Me*, in just six short days. "It seemed very obvious to us to play this kind of music," Kubler says. "That's what we grew up listening to. Very sweet rock songs. People were hungry for something like that." Since then they've toured tirelessly, and added 2005's *Separation Sunday*, 2006's *Boys and Girls in America*, and now *Stay Positive*, a streak that rivals the Stones' from '68 to '72 or the Clash's from '77 to '81 in terms of productivity and quality.

Five tickets to the Ice Capades, please.

3. Like many Americans, they're into God and country.

Not since the late '70s prime of Jim Carroll and Patti Smith has a rock star made it seem so hip to be Catholic. While Finn avoids any urge to proselytize, he's peppered the Hold Steady's albums with references to Jesus, Judas, St. Peter, and the resurrection. But rather than drape his songs in spirituality, Finn simply acknowledges the role religion plays in American life, for good or bad. Catholic weekly *America* magazine called them a "striking exception" to the "irony-laden world of independent rock."

Although formed in New York, the band's collective head remains in the middle of the country. Many of the songs are centered in and around the Twin Cities and beyond. From (the fictional) Hostile, Massachusetts to New Orleans, Hoboken, and Ybor City, Florida, the Hold Steady draw on an appreciation for America that recalls Jack Kerouac. At Littleton High School in Littleton, Colorado, one teacher used Hold Steady lyrics to help students study art and depression. The band honored the compliment by performing on campus.

4. They're all about their fans.

On *Stay Positive*'s title track, Finn sings about a "unified scene" and how "we couldn't have even done this if it wasn't for you." From the beginning, fans, fellow artists, and rock critics alike were equally captivated. Notoriously decimal-stingy rock site Pitchfork gave *Separation Sunday* an 8.7 rating, while *Boys and Girls* merited a white-billed-woodpecker-rare 9.4. In 2006 *Blender* named them band of the year, while taste-making blog Stereogum named *Boys and Girls* that year's best album. The accolades for *Stay Positive* have been equally rapturous.

5. Craig Finn is this generation's Bruce Springsteen.

"Somebody once said jokingly to Craig, 'God, people think you fucking invented the English language!'" says Kubler. "And there are some times when I listen to our records and I'm not sure he didn't. Those stories are incredible." The one artist to whom the Hold Steady are most often compared is Bruce Springsteen, whose '70s tales of wayward youth (and unpretty voice) foreshadowed Finn's. During a Carnegie Hall tribute to Springsteen last April, Finn performed with his idol on a show-closing jam on 1973's epic "Rosalita (Come Out Tonight)." Recalls singer-songwriter Jesse Malin, who was onstage: "That song is 15 minutes long with a million verses, but Craig sang it like he's been singing it his whole life. Bruce was pretty impressed." In 2006 the Boss treated Finn to a backstage sit-down. "I was losing my shit," Finn recalls. "One thing he did tell me, he said, 'Get a good live band—you'll never go hungry.'"

AS THE HOLD STEADY GET OLDER AND MORE popular, they will certainly face the same challenges that Springsteen faced before settling into the rock'n'roll granite. In fact, they are already a different band than they were a year or two ago. The Hold Steady's shows used to end drunkenly with the band inviting their fans onstage, but now they're simply too big to allow that kind of boozy communion. "Things disappeared from the stage," says Finn. "I've been grabbed in ways that I don't like being grabbed." All the members have cut back on their consumption. "There was such a culture of alcohol that attached itself to the band," he says. "Some nights I'd watch people in the audience and think, Guys, you're not even gonna remember this show."

A brilliant record can be a potent reminder, and happily, with *Stay Positive*, the band is now four for four. The true power of the new album comes from the implicit recognition of the very predicament the band finds itself in. It's a concept album about the melancholy of prolonged rebellion, a *London Calling* for the thirtysomething set. "A lot of the record is about the attempt to age gracefully," Finn says. "Rock'n'roll is a terrible place to try to do that."

For all the praise that has been heaped upon the Hold Steady in the past five fears, it will take more than superstardom to change Craig Finn and his band. "For someone who is an artist or a rock musician, I still have pretty traditional interests" he says. "Last night I was eating wings and drinking beer and watching hockey. That's just what I do." ●

Best of the Rest Five more bands carrying the indie-rock torch.

The Veterans
Wilco

In nine classic albums over 13 years, "America's Radiohead" have stayed atop the indie-rock heap.

Download: "California Stars"

The Juggernaut
Arcade Fire

OK, so this epic (in both size and sound) band is based in Montreal, but the singer's from Texas. Sue us.

Download: "Neighborhood #1"

The Minimalists
Spoon

Hailing from the indie mecca of Austin, Texas, Spoon make more with less than any band on the circuit.

Download: "Anything You Want"

The New Kids
Vampire Weekend

Out of nowhere, these preppy, young Afro-pop upstarts became 2008's ultimate hipster buzz band.

Download: "A-Punk"

The Guitar Heroes
My Morning Jacket

Evoking expansive classic rock acts like Skynyrd and the Band, MMJ are a monster in their live shows.

Download: "I'm Amazed"

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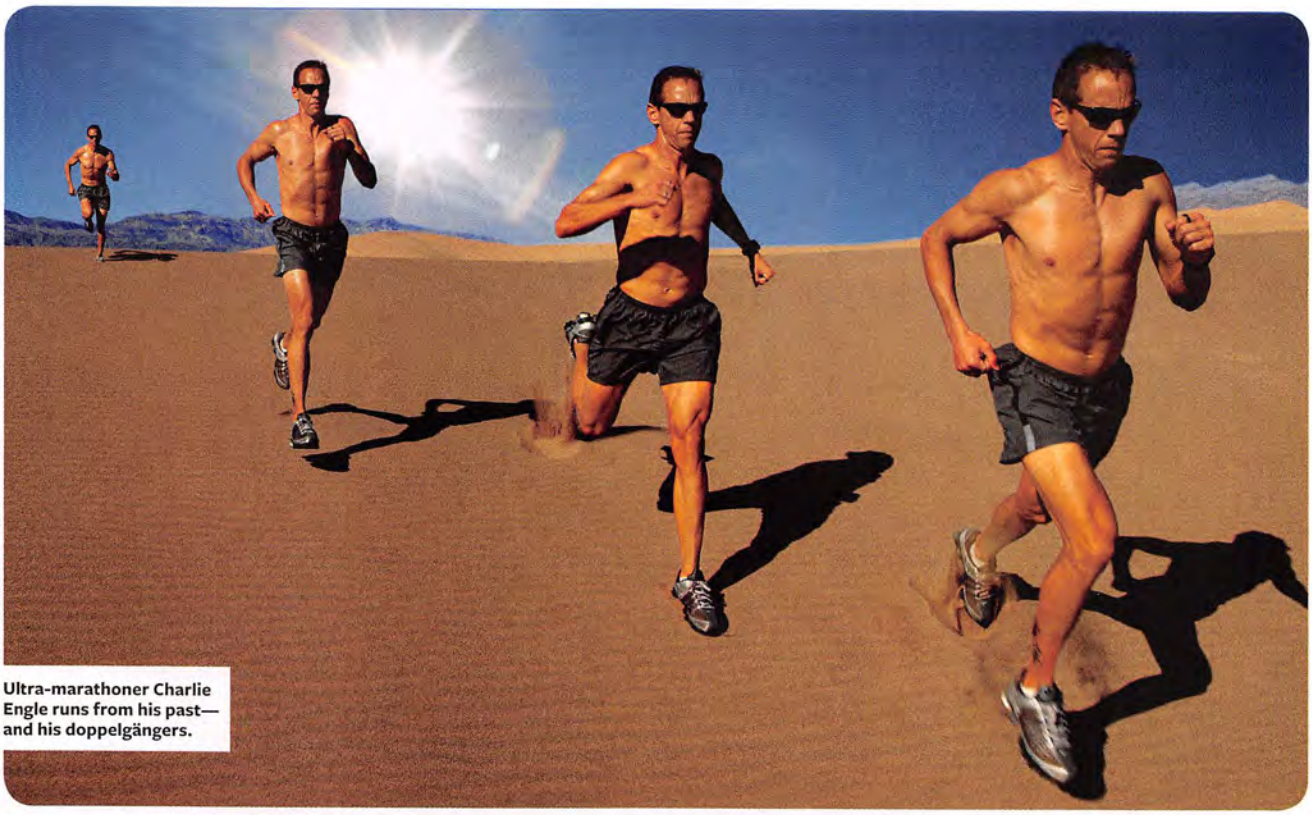
BY FRANK OWEN



Ultra-marathoner Charlie Engle runs from his past—and his doppelgängers.

Running From Addiction

How the once mythical "runner's high" is helping former users kick their habits, one mile at a time.

For me it happens around the eight or nine mile mark; a sensation that starts when the hairs on the back of my neck start to bristle with static electricity and that nagging pain in my legs begins to subside. Just at the point when I'm rounding the tip of Manhattan's Battery Park City, with the Statue of Liberty blinking in the half-light, when I feel like my heart is about to burst and I'm on the verge of collapse, my feet grow wings and I begin to fly. What had been agonizing drudgery is now effortless motion. I feel simultaneously calm and energized, like I'm floating on a fast-moving cushion of air. My senses are heightened. I smell the damp grass in the park and the diesel fumes trailing the Staten Island ferry. I am unstoppable. The sensation doesn't last long—maybe 10 minutes—and it doesn't happen on every run, but when it does the effect is thrilling and all-encompassing like a hit of crystal meth or crack. No wonder, then, that athletes who have previously been hooked on drugs can get addicted to the buzz.

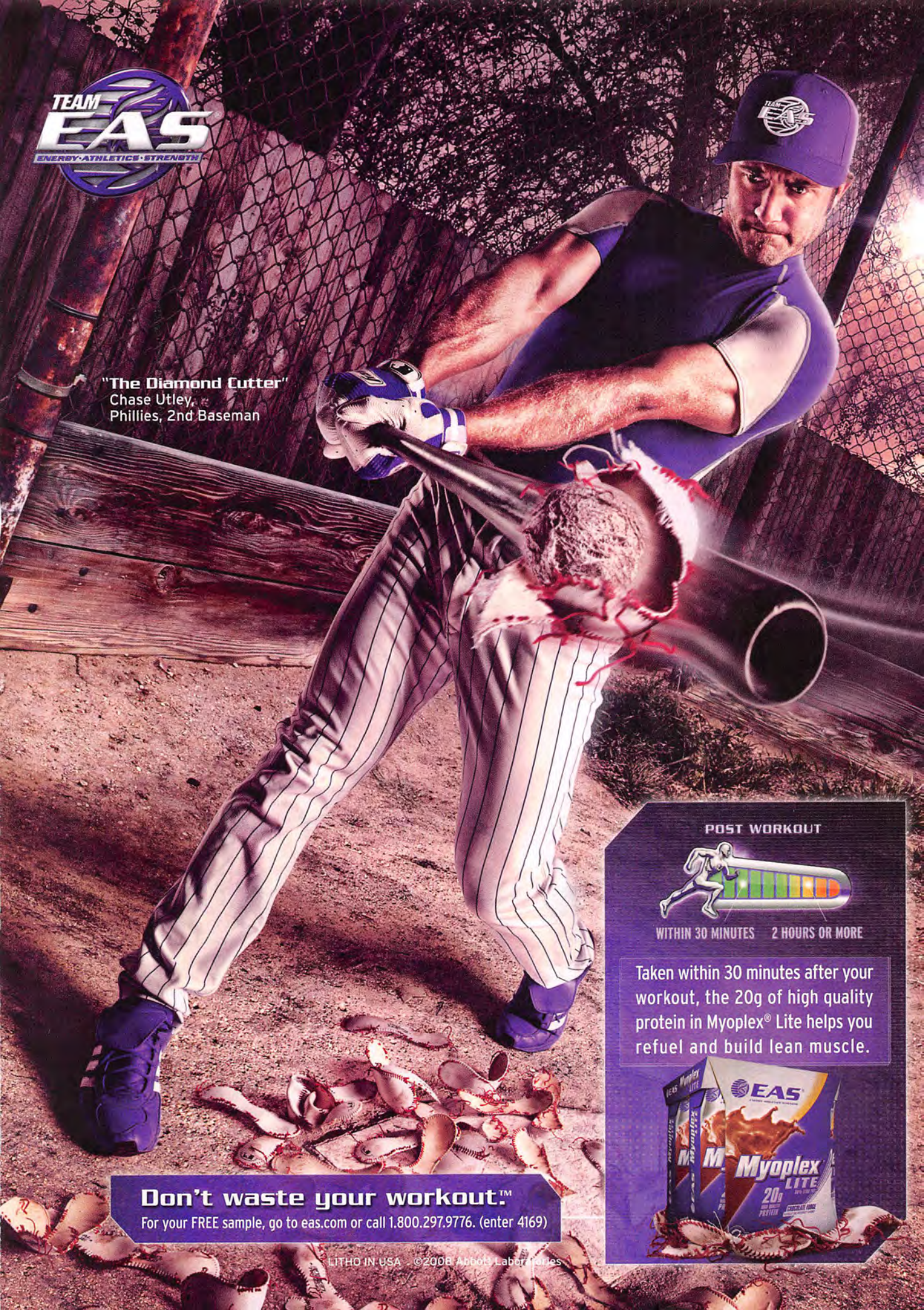
"Sometimes when I run in places like the Grand Canyon," says ultra-runner extraordinaire Charlie Engle, a former addict who kicked his habit on the way to becoming one of the world's elite extreme athletes, "I swear to God, it's like I've been shooting coke for two days."

They call this sensation the runner's high—a feeling of euphoric well-being that runners report after prolonged bouts of physical exertion. For years some skeptical scientists have claimed that it didn't really exist. "A total fantasy in the pop culture," one University of Michigan researcher told *The New York Times* in 2002. But this past February scientists used new brain imaging technology to establish that the runner's high is a very real event occurring in the neurocircuitry of the human brain, caused by endorphins, the body's naturally occurring opiates. At the same time, a number of addicts for whom traditional treatment programs have failed are turning to running to quit drugs. An Ohio-based organization called Racing for Recovery is one of a number of groups that regularly organize triathlons and 5K runs all over the country, where everyone from smokers to crackheads to OxyContin junkies run their demons ragged in what might be termed replacement therapy: a classic example of a positive addiction substituting for a negative one.

Engle could be the movement's poster boy, the man who spent 111 consecutive days running 4,300 miles across the North African desert, an epic and grueling journey chronicled in the documentary *Running the Sahara*. Engle is a legend in ultra-running circles, having traversed not just the Sahara but also the Gobi Desert, the Atacama Desert, the Amazon rain forest, Vietnam, and the jungles of Borneo. The 45-year-old regularly runs 40 to 50 miles a day, what a midlevel runner might cover in a hard week. But for 10 long years he was a hardcore coke addict, until in July 1992, after spending six days smoking crack in a seedy motel room in Wichita, Kansas, he gave up drugs for good.

Engle doesn't regret past substance abuse. "Drug addiction was my training ground," says the runner, who still dreams about cocaine. "That's how I learned to be good at endurance. Without those 10 years of torture, there's not a chance in hell I'd be doing the things I'm ➤➤

PHOTOGRAPHS, PATRIK GIARDINO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doing today. I figured out I didn't need to trash my addictive traits in order to be good at something other than taking drugs."

As researchers have come to learn, the drug high and the runner's high have a lot in common, namely brain chemicals, the mood-altering neurotransmitters that substances like cocaine, marijuana, and heroin mimic or activate. The difference is that running is a whole lot cheaper and won't leave you with a bloody nose or get you locked up in the big house.

The popular theory about the cause of the runner's high emerged in the 1970s as the jogging craze was sweeping the country. Scientists discovered endorphins, a brain chemical whose structure is similar to morphine's. Endorphins became the main theory to explain the high, especially after tests showed a dramatic increase in levels of endorphins in the blood of subjects who vigorously exercised. Who needed illegal substances when you could get a similar rush by running? The problem for many scientists was the belief that endorphins were too large to penetrate the brain. And if the endorphins failed to reach the brain, the skeptics claimed, then they couldn't get you stoned.

Celebs like Downey, Jack Osbourne, Kiedis, and Wilson used exercise to conquer their demons.

In February, however, the scientists at the University of Bonn in Germany settled the dispute. They examined 10 long-distance runners before and after a two-hour jog and were able to show conclusively a marked increase in the release of endorphins in the brain.

In addition to endorphins, researchers have identified other chemicals that are stimulated by intense exercise: dopamine, the substance that allows us to feel pleasure; serotonin, which acts as an antidepressant; and epinephrine, the body's natural amphetamine. It seems likely, then, that the runner's high is caused not by a single substance but by a whole cocktail of chemicals. This helps explain why celebrities such as Robert Downey Jr., Anthony Kiedis, and Owen Wilson have conquered their demons by becoming workout junkies.

Todd Crandell, who founded Racing for Recovery seven years ago, shares a similar life story with Charlie Engle. At the height of his addiction, he was drinking two fifths of Jack Daniel's and snorting three or four grams of cocaine a day, supplemented with heroin, crystal meth, Valium, LSD, marijuana, Quaaludes, basically anything he could get his hands on.

"When I woke up in the morning, my first thought would be, *Damn, I'm still alive. How much of this stuff is it going to take for me to overdose and die?*" says Crandell. "It was a nightmare."

After 13 years as an addict, Crandell stopped using in 1993 and started participating in Ironman triathlon events, which consist of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bicycle ride, and a 26.2-mile run. Since 1999, the 41-year-old has completed more than a dozen Ironman challenges and has written a book about his struggles, *Racing for Recovery: From Addict to Ironman.*

"When I'm running, I feel like I'm on amphetamine," he says. "People say to me that I've just swapped one addiction for another addiction. They're both highs, but one is destructive and the other is extremely productive."

Just how productive is evident from the testimonials of the many addicts Crandell's organization has helped. A year ago, 33-year-old Eddie Freas' crack cocaine habit was so bad he was suicidal. Then he saw Crandell being interviewed on ESPN and contacted him. Crandell moved Freas from his hometown in New Jersey to a facility called the Lifestyle Center in Toledo, where Freas began running as much as 50 miles a week. While he admits he still gets cravings, Freas says he hasn't touched cocaine in six months. Recovering alcoholic Aaron Dalley, 28, lives and works at the same facility. "I wouldn't say that if you go running you automatically get sober," he says. "But the exercise changes you. You sleep better. You eat better. It boosts your self-esteem, which makes it easier to concentrate on staying sober."

Researchers from Butler Hospital in Providence seem to back up Crandell's program. They found that alcoholics who took part in 12 weeks of aerobic exercise were two and a half times more likely to remain clean and sober than those who didn't exercise.

"There's no doubt the drug high is more intense than the runner's high," says Charlie Engle. "The main difference for me is that, with the runner's high, I can enjoy the experience and not have to worry about the police coming to bust me. And afterward I can still go and pick my kids up for dinner." ●

The Fix-O-Meter

Not every addiction is created equal. Compare yours with this handy graph.

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LIFE WITHOUT A NET

DESPITE LEAVING GRAND SLAM TENNIS BEHIND, ANNA KOURNIKOVA REMAINS UNRIVALED AS THE HOTTEST QUEEN OF THE COURT.

BY SPENCER MORGAN
PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHAN WÜRTH

THE PHENOMENON THAT IS ANNA KOURNIKOVA GOT ITS START AT THE 1996 U.S. Open. Recall that fabled moment when a young blonde with a hard-to-pronounce last name appeared out of nowhere, and with a combination of stunning beauty and a fierce forehand that made jaws drop first and ask her age later (she was only 15), Kournikova changed the face—and look—of women's tennis forever.

While she may not have collected many trophies during her active days on the court, with each grunt-filled match she made the game sexier, more stylish, more popular—and more Russian. You can't flip on a tournament these days without being hit with a "pova" or a "kova," or, for that matter, running smack into a well-toned pair of barely covered buttocks. For all this we have Anna to thank.

Since her historic U.S. Open debut, Anna, now a buff 27, has scored countless cover shoots—this issue marks her hat trick for *Maxim*—and product endorsements (she is currently the face of K-Swiss sportswear). Not to mention much publicized relationships with two NHL hockey stars and an on-again, off-again love affair with Latin pop sensation Enrique Iglesias—to whom, she reveals here, she was never actually married. (So good news, fellas—she's single!) ➤➤

Heidi Klein bikini
Miss Sixty T-shirt
Tom Binns ring

We caught up with Anna at her home in Miami Beach as the final stages of Wimbledon were progressing at fever pitch and her own training was beginning. She continues to play the sport for the St. Louis Aces in the World TeamTennis league, a celebrity player circuit whose ranks have included tennis giants like Billie Jean King, John McEnroe, Björn Borg, and Chris Evert. The sport that catapulted her to international stardom continues to be Anna's passion, and her phenomenal beauty and sex appeal continue to be ours.

THE TABLOIDS GIVE CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT YOUR AVAILABILITY. WHAT'S THE DEAL?
Marital status: Single! You know how they have those boxes you fill in on applications? Single, married, widowed? Yes, you can put me in the "single" box.

YOU'RE *NOT* MARRIED TO ENRIQUE IGLESIAS?
No.

WELL, ARE YOU OPPOSED TO MARRIAGE?
For some people it fits, for others it doesn't. In a perfect world, everybody who's in a relationship should be married. I mean, whatever. I guess that's the tradition.

WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IN A MAN?
It's all about the connection. Sense of humor is key, because you've got to laugh about things in life whether they're bad or good. You've got to have fun together. Relationships are hard.

DO TELL.
Relationships are sacrifices. You have to know yourself in order to be in a healthy relationship. I don't think somebody can complete you. You have to be whole yourself.

IN 1997 YOU MOVED TO MIAMI BEACH. WAS THAT BECAUSE YOU LIKE TO BOOGIE?
I go out maybe once every three months. I would much rather have friends over at my house for a barbecue. I do go to late dinners, but very rarely do I go to nightclubs. And when I was playing tennis, it was virtually impossible to stay out really late. We'd always go to sleep at 10 or 11 at night.

YOU STILL COMPETE AS A PLAYER IN THE WORLD TEAMTENNIS LEAGUE. WHAT'S YOUR ROUTINE?
I play at least every other day, getting ready for the league. But normally I play about four times a week. I've always been an athlete. I'm always going to be an athlete.

DO YOU STILL FOLLOW PRO WOMEN'S TENNIS?
Yes. Now there are so many surprises and so many good players. I'm always rooting for my friends. I really get along great with Serena Williams. She's an amazing girl and a legend on the tennis court. I root for my Russian friends: Dinara Safina and Svetlana Kuznetsova. I love to see them do well. And a lot of Russians and Eastern Europeans.

ALONG WITH PAVING THE WAY FOR RUSSIAN PLAYERS, YOU'RE ALSO CREDITED WITH HERALDING AN ERA OF SEX SIRENS IN TENNIS.
You know what? I didn't notice. My only focus has always been playing tennis. The press was creating the interest. I was just living my life. I didn't give it a thought back then.

BUT YOU BECAME A SEX SYMBOL.
All I knew was that I had to sleep, eat, train, and do my best on the court. The way I dressed was completely natural. I wasn't saying to myself, "Tomorrow I'm going to dress like this to project a sexy image." I was traveling the world and meeting amazing people.

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES WORLD OF TENNIS?
I never saw any drugs. There were people who liked each other and people who didn't. It's like any office environment—not every person is going to get along. Same with tennis. My confrontations were on the tennis court, where I'd put on my war face. Even if any of the players said anything bad about me—and I've had a million things said about me—I always preferred to take the high road. They can say whatever the hell they want to.

JUST HOW "GAY" IS WOMEN'S TENNIS?
It was very open. Obviously, there are lesbian players, and it's no secret. It's a personal choice about how you're going to live your life, and that's it. As long as somebody doesn't push their views on you? Cool, good luck. I came to America when I was nine and was always traveling with my mom or dad, so I was protected.

RETIRED PRO SINGLES PLAYER JUSTIN GIMELSTOB RECENTLY CALLED YOU A BITCH ON A RADIO SHOW. THOUGHTS?
That's not just disrespectful to me personally, or to the other girls he named: It's disrespectful to another human being. It's ridiculous and shows his class and frame of mind. You make an appropriate analysis of who that person is in your head and you act accordingly.

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL EVER SETTLE DOWN?
Hopefully, of course. But it's not a thing for which I have a five- or 10-year plan. I might get hit by a bus tomorrow. ●

STYLING, MADDY SIMPSON; HAIR, AMENEH FOR FORD ARTISTS USING REDKEN; MAKEUP, BILLY B FOR BILLYBBEAUTY.COM. THANKS TO THE MOORINGS VILLAGE & SPA, ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA, MOORINGSVILLAGE.COM. BIKINI TOP, MILLY; BOTTOM, BURBERRY; SHIRT, TWENTY8TWELVE; RING, ROCKRAS BY KIMBERLY MCDONALD

EASTERN EUROPEAN HOTSHOTS! ANNA RANKS HER COMRADES' SERVES AND STYLE.

Ana Ivanovic
On the court: "I think that Ana is awesome. She's a very beautiful girl. And very talented as well. She's a strong player who has a very powerful game. And she's a hard hitter."
On the runway: "She's very cute and into fashion; at the end of the day it's a personal expression."

Maria Sharapova
On the court: "She's been around much longer than the others. She has more experience. She's got a very strong game, obviously. She's been number one for a long time now."
On the runway: "What, you mean how she wears her shorts? Not much to say."

Svetlana Kuznetsova
On the court: "That's my friend! I've known her for years. We still play together. She's got a great sense of humor. Game strength is experience. She's got great hands. She's naturally talented."
On the runway: "It's all about colors. It's all how you wear it. I think she wears it great."
—Spencer Morgan

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Finn necklaces
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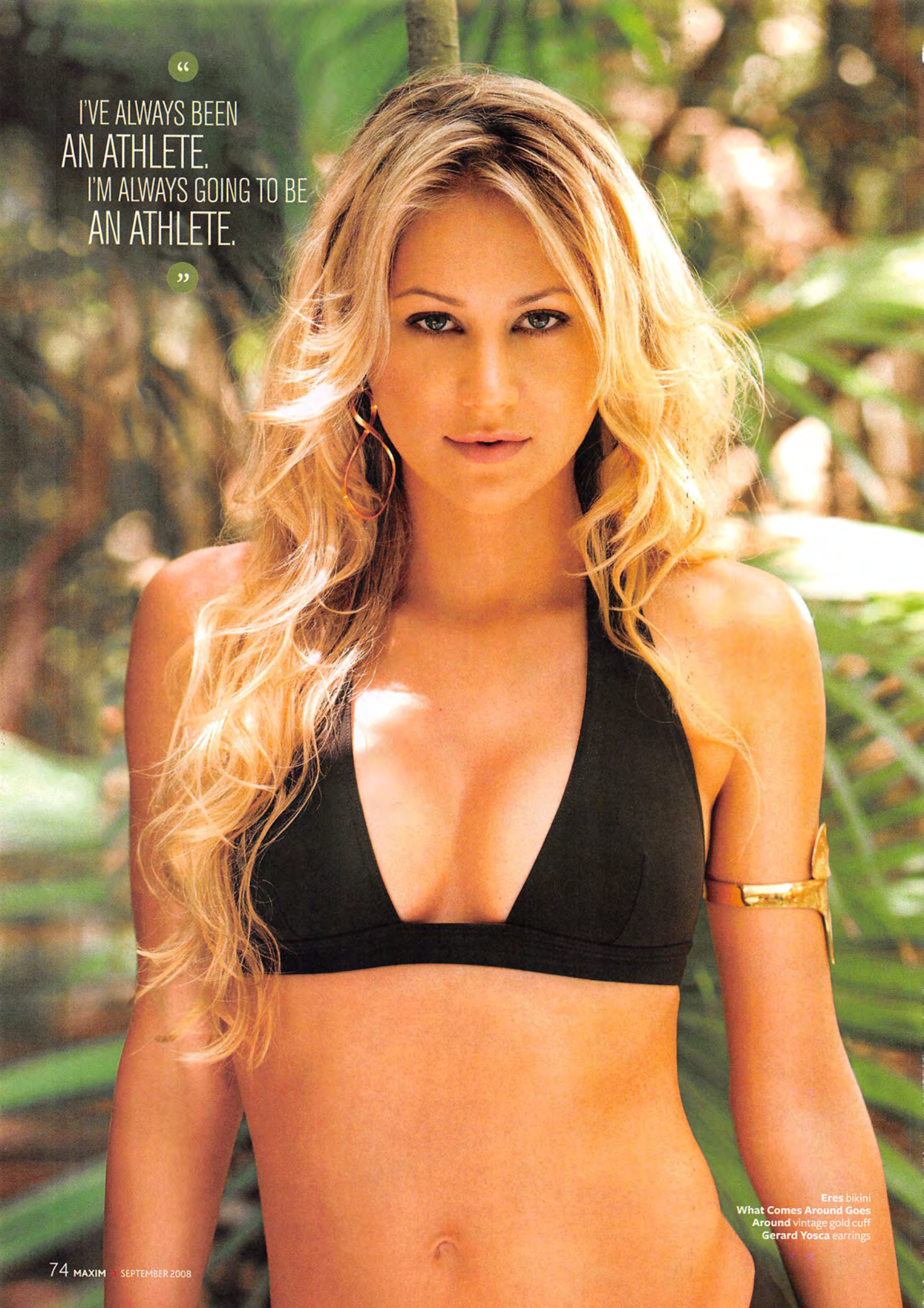
Milly bikini top
Calvin Klein T-shirt
Norma Kamali bikini bottoms
Tom Binns gold cuff bracelets

MAXIM ONLINE

For our behind-the-scenes video of this shoot, go to www.maxim.com/annakvideo.



Eres bikini
What Comes Around Goes Around vintage gold cuff
Gerard Yosca earrings

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Helmut Lang T-shirt
Vitamin A bikini bottom

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THERE WILL BE BLOOD!

MAXIM'S

2008 NFL BLOWOUT

Ah, fall. The air is crisp with the smell of dried leaves, chimney smoke...and raw male aggression. Every Sunday from now until February, you'll witness all the NFL has to offer: cutthroat rivalries, bone-crushing hits, and wallet-busting upsets. In anticipation, we've got the breakdown on all things pigskin, including the best match-ups, the craziest predictions, and the most gorgeous girls to prowl the sidelines. Plus, we'll reveal the 2008 All-*Maxim* Team—the biggest, baddest roster of stars we've ever assembled. So strap on a cup and turn the page. It's gonna be a wild ride.

PHOTO-ILLUSTRATION, ERIC HEINTZ

2008 NFL BLOWOUT

THE FIX IS IN!

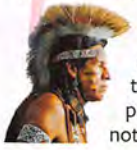
Adam McKay, writer-director of *Anchorman*, *Talladega Nights*, and *Step Brothers*, offers five simple suggestions to make the 2008 season even more awesome.

RULE 1 Extend the bump-and-run contact zone from the first five yards off the line of scrimmage to one week prior to the game. Picture Randy Moss eating cereal before practice, when suddenly Charles Woodson jumps out from behind the kitchen counter, horse-collars him, and then runs out the back door. That's what football was meant to be. Or maybe Marvin Harrison is up on a ladder cleaning his gutters when Champ Bailey comes sailing in on a hang glider with a shovel...*Whack!* Admittedly, that's not even close to football, but come on! Just during the preseason?

RULE 2 One game a year they go shirts and skins and play with a Nerf football in a cul-de-sac. Imagine Brian Westbrook running an end around in a *Get Smart* T-shirt and getting clipped by the fender of a Chevy Malibu. Or the expression on Dwight Freeney's face when his mom calls him to dinner.

RULE 3 For one quarter let a dozen pheasants loose on the field. I admit I'm not sure if that helps the game, but fuck it, let's not overthink this one.

RULE 4 Change the Redskins name, for crying out loud. OK, I'm getting 20 percent serious here for a second. Did you know that the term "redskin" came from when it was legal to kill Native Americans and the U.S. government paid for their scalps, or...wait for it...*redskins*? So basically we have a pro sports team named after the bloody skin and hair from a murdered person. That's demented, serial-killer shit. Can you imagine if the Bears were called the Chicago Gacy's Basements? Or if a team were called the L.A. Squeaky Frommes? If people had beef with "Devil Rays," how are they not flipping out over this name?



RULE 5 NFL Sunday Ticket should offer multiple announcers on different channels. So if the Jets are playing the Chiefs, you can see it with Madden or Fouts or whomever. But if you change the channel you'll get Noam Chomsky and Flavor Flav. Flip to the next channel and it's Heidi from *The Hills* and HBO boxing announcer Larry Merchant.

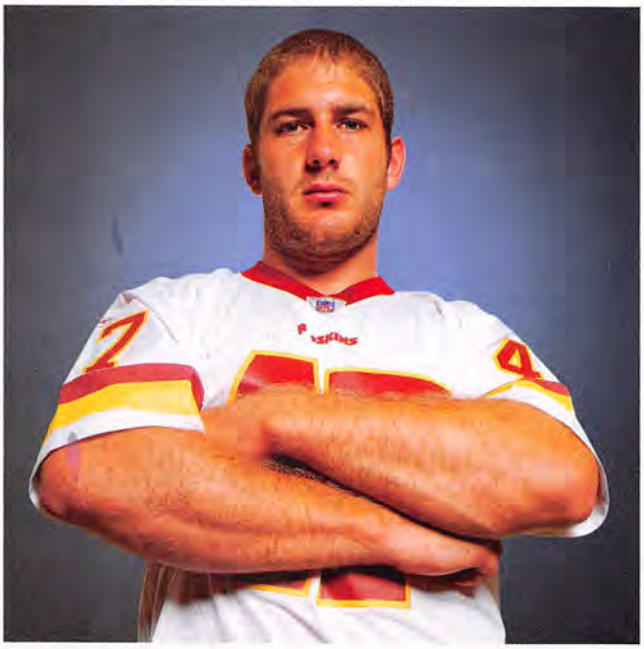
FIVE BURNING QUESTIONS

Q: As executive VP of the Dolphins, will Bill Parcells prove this year that he's the NFL's greatest mastermind...or just full of shit?
Parcells hasn't won a championship since '96. If his losing streak continues, the Fish can expect to remain lousy. But to be fair, "Parcells is *not* the coach of the Dolphins," says NFL Network *Total Access* host Rich Eisen. "During games he'll be tucked away in the suite with the free shrimp and dessert cart." Harvey Fialkov, Dolphins writer for the *Sun-Sentinel*, believes, "It takes two to three years for Tuna's talent, skills, and bullying to turn around floundering franchises." Time and free hors d'oeuvres will tell!

2008 ALL-MAXIM TEAM

All football players are tough and gritty. (Yes, even kickers.) But not all football players are created equal. There are some who stand above the rest for their style, their balls, and their knack for making big plays in the biggest moments. Made in the mold of Joe Namath, they are innovators on and off the field—players who demand attention and capture our imaginations, who bring a swagger to everything they do. These are All-*Maxim* players. And they will kick every other all-star team's ass.

OFFENSE



MARIUS BUGGE

TE CHRIS COOLEY, REDSKINS

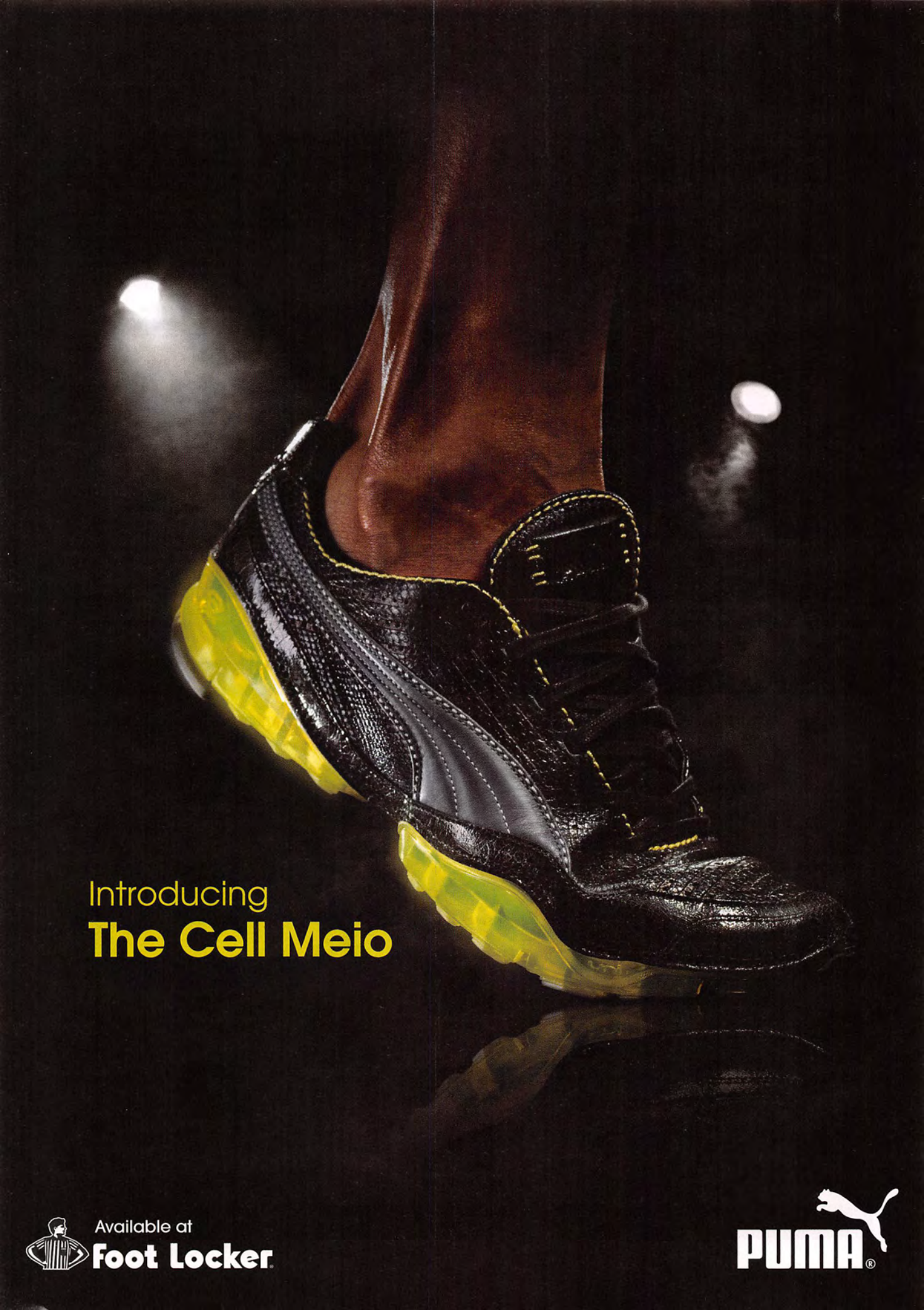
The All-Pro tight end lets loose on the field—and off.

WHERE DID YOUR NICKNAME, "CAPTAIN CHAOS," COME FROM?
A couple of years ago when we played St. Louis. Me and [teammate] Brian Kozlowski made a bet for 20 bucks that I wouldn't introduce myself to the Rams captains that way. So I'm this idiot second-year player looking at Orlando Pace and saying, "Hi, I'm Captain Chaos."

YOU SAY YOU'RE ABSENT-MINDED. HOW DO YOU MEMORIZE A PLAYBOOK?
An average offensive meeting is an hour and a half. I know everything that's going to be discussed in six minutes. Then I just zone out. I have an unbelievable sketchbook of naked women. I was an art major.

WHAT IF YOU GET CAUGHT DOODLING?
If you look up every once in a while, it looks like you're taking notes.*

*Check out the full Cooley interview at Maxim.com. And visit Chris at chriscooley47.blogspot.com.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THE DISSECTION

GATES OF HELL

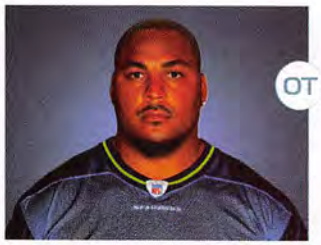
The ultimate tailgaters, translated.

Reprimanded for wearing hat to work next day.
If Falcons score another touchdown, head will explode.
Lead-based paint took two weeks to wash off.
Fannypack-suspenders combo a historic first.
Likely never been inside a woman.
Special "masturbation gloves" embarrass even his buddies.

OG

LEONARD DAVIS • DALLAS COWBOYS

If you see BIGG coming, get out of the way. Davis was six feet, 205 pounds in fifth grade and never stopped growing—today he's 6'6", 354 pounds. The versatile big man, who played left tackle for two seasons, is also the NFL's highest-paid player, according to *Forbes*, pulling in $25.4 mil in '07. "For a month after that list came out, I was getting made fun of all the time," he says. Aw, poor guy!



OT

WALTER JONES • SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

"Back in high school we didn't have all the weight equipment, so we would go out and push a truck," the man *Sporting News* named the NFL's best player in '06 says of his off-season workout. "I probably do 10 sets of about 35 yards every day." And despite a kidney condition that prevents him from getting hopped up on painkillers, this iron man has started all 168 games of his career.

OT

FLOZELL ADAMS • DALLAS COWBOYS

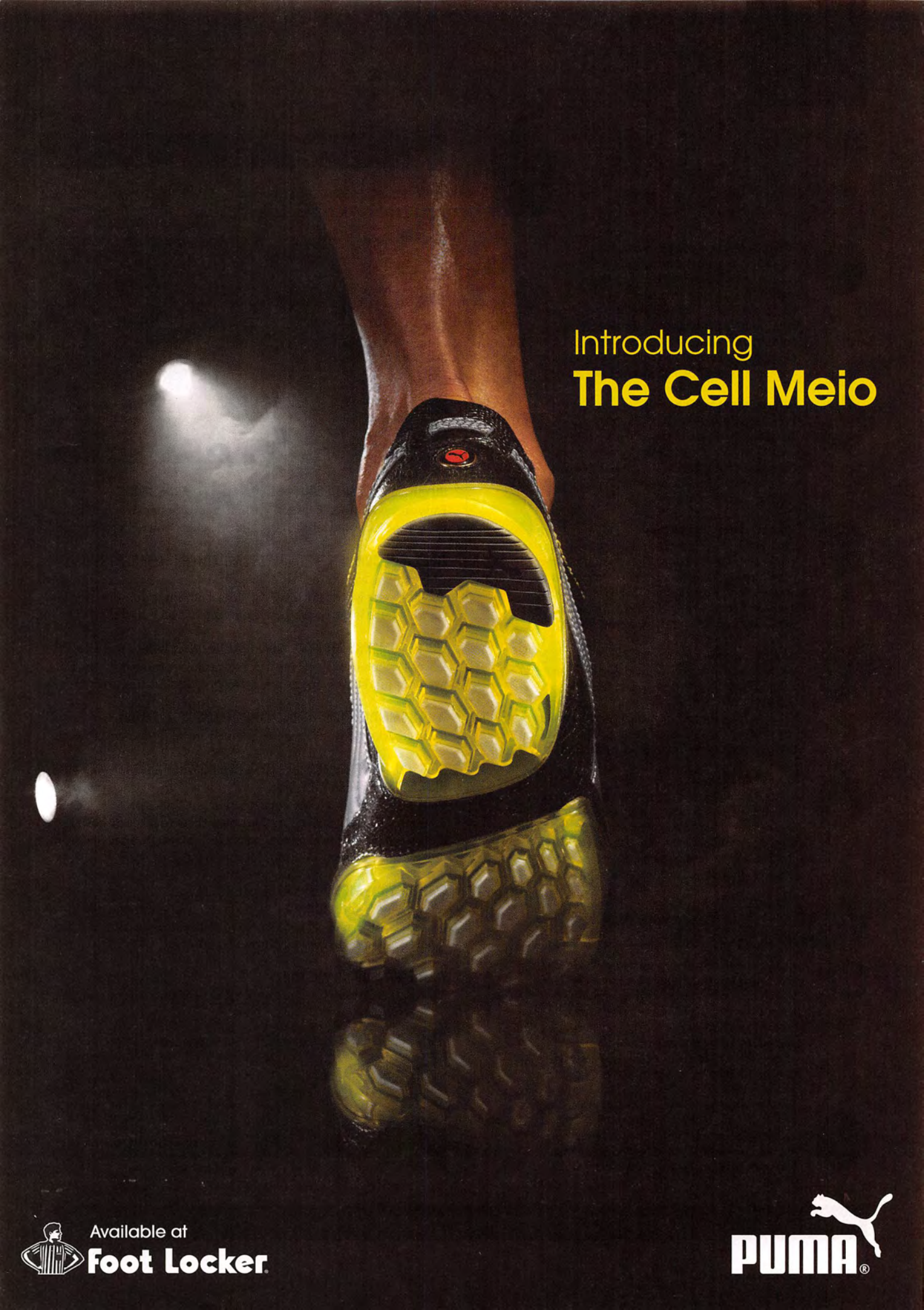
Offensive linemen don't get enough credit. But at 6'7", 340 pounds, Adams isn't so easy to ignore. Easily the Cowboys' most reliable pass protector, he earned a six-year contract extension worth $42 mil in the off-season. "The Hotel" looks to march deep into the playoffs this year, protecting Tony Romo's blind side so he has his health for those Cabo trips with pneumatic starlets.

BATTLE ROYALE

USA Today football analyst Danny Sheridan picks this year's playoff winners. Put your money where his mouth is.

*DENOTES WILDCARD

BEST OF THE BEST: THE LIKELIEST MVP > TOM BRADY, 4:1 > PEYTON MANNING, 6:1 > LADANIAN TOMLINSON, 8:1 > TONY ROMO, 10:1 > ADRIAN PETERSON, 12:1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BILL'S CHEAT SHEET

In '07 Pats coach Bill Belichick was caught cheating on football. Why stop there?

How to cheat on your taxes
Hey, Bill, everyone knows you pull in $4.2 million, so underreporting your income won't work. Instead, tweak the little things on your tax return. That ex-wife? Report her as a dependent! Your son Stephen? Conveniently ignore his partial lacrosse scholarship to Rutgers! Liquid lunch at Hooters? You were coming up with a scheme for the Dolphins game! It all adds up.

How to cheat in Monopoly
With a reputation like yours, Bill, no one is going to let you be the banker. Go to Hasbro.com, download some PDFs of Monopoly money (they're there to replace lost or damaged bills), print them in color, and stash 'em in your pocket for that next big rent payment.

How to cheat on your lady
Extra work is a great excuse, so pick one night a week when you have to stay late to study "game film." Missing, stained, or sex-scented clothes are giveaways, so if you must bone wearing your headset, just get a second one to wear home. But you already knew all that, didn't you?

How to cheat in *World of Warcraft*
Want all the *WoW* glory without putting in any actual effort? Bill, the answer is bots. For 15 to 30 bucks, you can download bots that automatically perform the game's menial tasks that help you rake in piles of gold and reach a higher level that you don't really deserve. Sound familiar?

How to cheat death
Changing your diet helps, but the key here is to chill, Bill. Men who respond to stress with high levels of anger are three times more prone to develop premature heart disease! Great friendships have been proven to help people live 4.5 years longer, but let's quit while we're ahead.

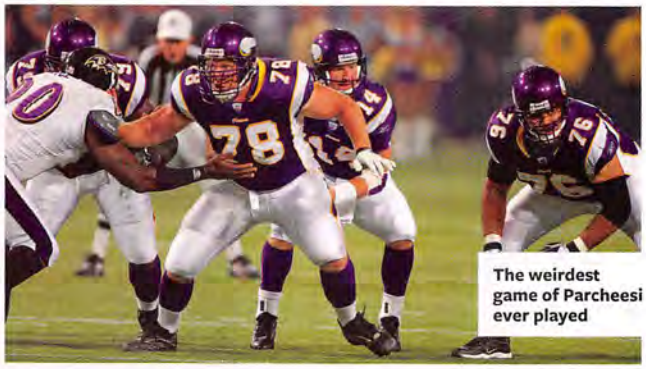
FIVE BURNING QUESTIONS

Q: In SB III, Namath delivered a huge upset. Not much has happened since. Are the Jets the NFL's most heartbreaking franchise?
Recent years have alternated between promising starts with soul-crushing finishes (an unexpected run to the playoffs in the 2006 season ended with a 37-16 thrashing by the Pats) and Chernobyl-level meltdowns (last year's 4-12 disaster). Plus, they still have to share Giants Stadium with the defending champs. Brian Bassett, founder of TheJetsBlog.com, characterizes Jets fans' condition thusly: "Heartbreak to me implies love and loss. What I experience annually feels more like an abusive relationship." Ouch.

Q & A

C MATT BIRK, VIKINGS

This Harvard-educated six-time Pro Bowler has been the key to the resurrection of the Vikes' running game. Nerd.



The weirdest game of Parcheesi ever played

DO GUYS MAKE FUN OF YOU FOR BEING AN IVY LEAGUE GRAD?
Early on, yes. My rookie year, Brian Billick was my offensive coordinator. Every time I screwed up, he'd say, "I can't believe you went to Harvard."

DOES YOUR COMPETITIVE INSTINCT CARRY OVER TO LIFE OFF THE FIELD?
Oh, yeah, you can't turn it off. A few years back we'd have contests after practice to see who could drink a gallon of milk in 15 minutes. And you couldn't puke for an hour after or you wouldn't get the kitty.

YOU'RE COMMISH FOR A DAY. WHAT RULE CHANGES WOULD YOU ENACT?
Fewer TV time-outs. It seems like every time we run out on the field, everyone just stands around and stares at each other for two minutes.

WHO'S SMARTER, QUARTERBACKS OR OFFENSIVE LINEMEN?
Quarterbacks, for sure. Offensive linemen are better-looking, though.

NOW TELL THE TRUTH: ISN'T IT A LITTLE WEIRD WHEN ANOTHER MAN PUTS HIS HANDS BETWEEN YOUR LEGS?
Yeah, it's something you try not to think about. But I'll say this: You have to snap that ball hard. There are still times when it doesn't go quite right and I feel it in that lower region. I was worried it might affect my reproductive career, but my wife and I just had our fourth.

WE HEAR YOU HAVE A WEIRD PREGAME RITUAL.
A few hours before each game, I go out on the field and just lie there peacefully for a while, get myself relaxed, and kind of visualize the game. Then I go to the sidelines and throw up a little bit.

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING, ARE YOU?
No. Not at all. I don't feel quite right in the head until I've thrown up.

WES WELKER • NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS
He's tiny. He's white. And against all odds, he's one of the NFL's elite receivers. The 5'9", 185-pound dynamo caught 112 passes from Tom Brady last regular season. "There's a very fine line between being a starter and being out of a job in this league," he says. "There are a lot of great players waiting for a chance to show they can catch 112 passes." Typical boring white-dude talk.

WHO'LL BE THE FIRST COACH TO GET CANNED? > LANE KIFFIN, 1:1 > MIKE NOLAN, 2:1 > SCOTT LINEHAN, 2:1 > HERMAN EDWARDS, 3:1 > JOHN FOX, 5:1

LILLY ROBBINS

Age: 20 ▸ **Miami Dolphins**

When a team is losing, sometimes the cheerleaders will still chant, "We're number one!" Do you condone lying?
Yes, I think it's OK. We're there for the fans, to help them get their spirits up. When we're losing, you can't be in a frustrated mood, because we're the ones helping pick them up, telling them that we can come back. We're the team's number one fans, so they have to rely on us to keep everyone motivated and optimistic.

What about your fans? Got any crazy ones?
We've got these two guys, and they just have every calendar and every picture we've ever done. I don't care if you took a picture with me my rookie year at some random appearance, they have it. And they'll have it laminated, so that they can pull it out and have you sign it. They carry around all the old calendars in case a former cheerleader is there. They're harmless, but it's almost like they want to *be* us.

Yikes.
I had a guy ask me for one of the girl's game-worn socks.

Do you have a day job?
I'm a full-time student studying sports broadcasting. I'm going to a community college right now. I have one semester left, and then I'll hopefully be at FAU [Florida Atlantic University] in the spring. I want to be an interviewer on the sidelines.

OK, challenge time: Make up a *Maxim* cheer on the spot. Go!
Um...*Maxim*'s number one...whoo!

The first 1,000 Verizon Wireless customers to text LILLY to 51945 receive a FREE wallpaper of this picture.*

PHOTOGRAPH, JIM MALLUCCI; STYLING, KAREN SHAPIRO; HAIR, MARCO TESTA AT BERNSTEIN AND ANDRIULLI FOR MAC; MAKEUP, ELISA FLOWERS AT BERNSTEIN AND ANDRIULLI FOR JOHN MASTERS ORGANICS. *STANDARD TEXT MESSAGING RATES APPLY.

FIVE BURNING QUESTIONS

Q: Are the Pats totally mind-fucked for '08?
Not since 1993 has a beaten team returned to the big game the following season, but don't count them out. "These Pats seem to be immune to everything," notes the NFL Network's Rich Eisen. "Losses to free agency, injury bugs, aging players...Tony Romo runs off to Cabo with Jessica Simpson and gets torched for it; Brady holes up with Gisele before the Super Bowl and nearly wins his fourth ring." Plus, they're virtually guaranteed a playoff spot thanks to a JV division featuring the Jets, Bills, and Dolphins. Let the Pats hating begin...again!

JANELLE STANGL POM SQUAD

Age: 21 • **Philadelphia Eagles**

What's the biggest misconception about cheerleaders?
People think, Oh, cheerleaders, it's all bubblegum and you're so happy all the time. But it is really a lot of hard work! We have to sit in splits for 10 minutes on each side, and it's really tough.

Is there anything unglamorous about it?
Well, I got bitten by bugs on our calendar shoot in the Dominican Republic. It was the worst itching I've ever felt. But our calendar is amazing! Everything was made out of recycled material. Go green!

Would the Eagles be as eco-friendly if their team color were red?
Probably. It's a big issue. Our practice complex has solar energy.

Q & A

RB BRANDON JACOBS, GIANTS

When it comes to the thunder-and-lightning running game, this 6'4", 264-pound back brings the noise.

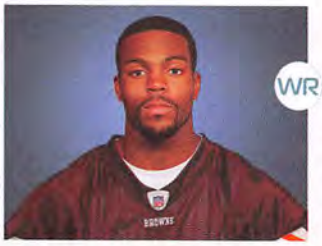
Just once, thought No. 27, I'd like to be on the bottom.

DOES IT UPSET YOU WHEN PEOPLE SAY LAST YEAR'S SUPER BOWL WAS THE GREATEST UPSET EVER? IT'S NOT LIKE YOU GOT THERE BY LOTTERY.
You know how the world works. The Patriots were 18-0, and they deserved all the credit they had going into that game. They still lost.

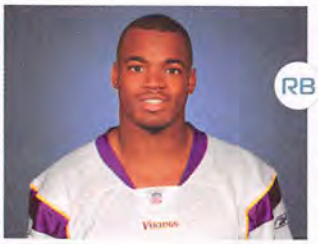
WHO'S THE BIGGEST JOKESTER ON THE SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS?
Eli Manning, without a doubt. He's always taking people's cell phones and switching them to Spanish, so guys can't understand anything and they can never figure out how to switch them back.

YOU'RE A BIG TALKER ON THE FIELD. HAS ANYONE EVER SAID ANYTHING TO YOU THAT CRACKED YOU UP?
Pacman Jones. One game he was saying things like, "I'm rich. I've got millions. You broke, boy? You want some money?" It was the single most irrelevant thing anyone ever said to me on the field.

HAD ANY FUN ENDORSEMENT OPPORTUNITIES SINCE THE SUPER BOWL?
I have my own line of ice cream: Louisiana Pecan Crunch. It's got all my favorite flavors in there: pecan, chocolate, caramel. I've eaten quarts of it. But I'll be down to 255 at training camp.



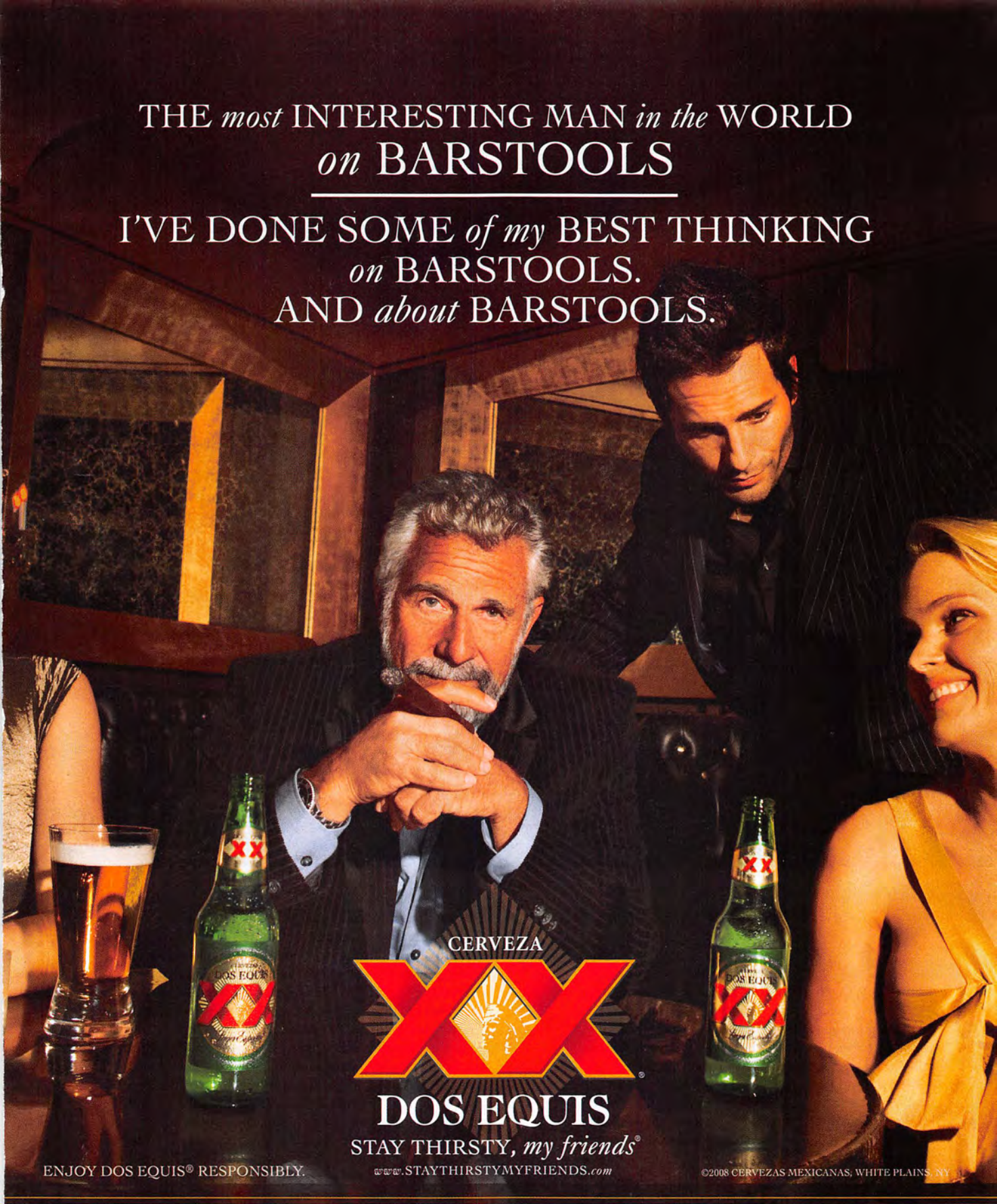
BRAYLON EDWARDS • CLEVELAND BROWNS
A fourth-year receiver, Edwards had a breakout season in '07. Second only to Randy Moss in TD receptions, his 16 scores and 1,289 receiving yards earned him his first Pro Bowl nod and helped the perennially basement-dwelling Browns to a 10-6 record. Perhaps more impressive? His winning wardrobe. "My style is similar to Neon Deion Sanders'," he says. "But I don't do the hats."



ADRIAN PETERSON • MINNESOTA VIKINGS
The Raiders, Lions, Browns, Bucs, Cards, and Redskins should be kicking themselves. Why? Each chose not to draft "All Day" in 2007. Last November the Pro Bowl back (who has been compared to Jim Brown) took the single-game rushing mark with 296 yards against the Chargers. "I want to be the best player to ever play this game," Peterson has proclaimed. He's off to a decent start.

JIM MALUCCI (JANELLE)

BIG REPLACEMENT SHOES TO FILL > AARON RODGERS FOR BRETT FAVRE > MATT RYAN FOR MICHAEL VICK > JUSTIN TUCK FOR MICHAEL STRAHAN



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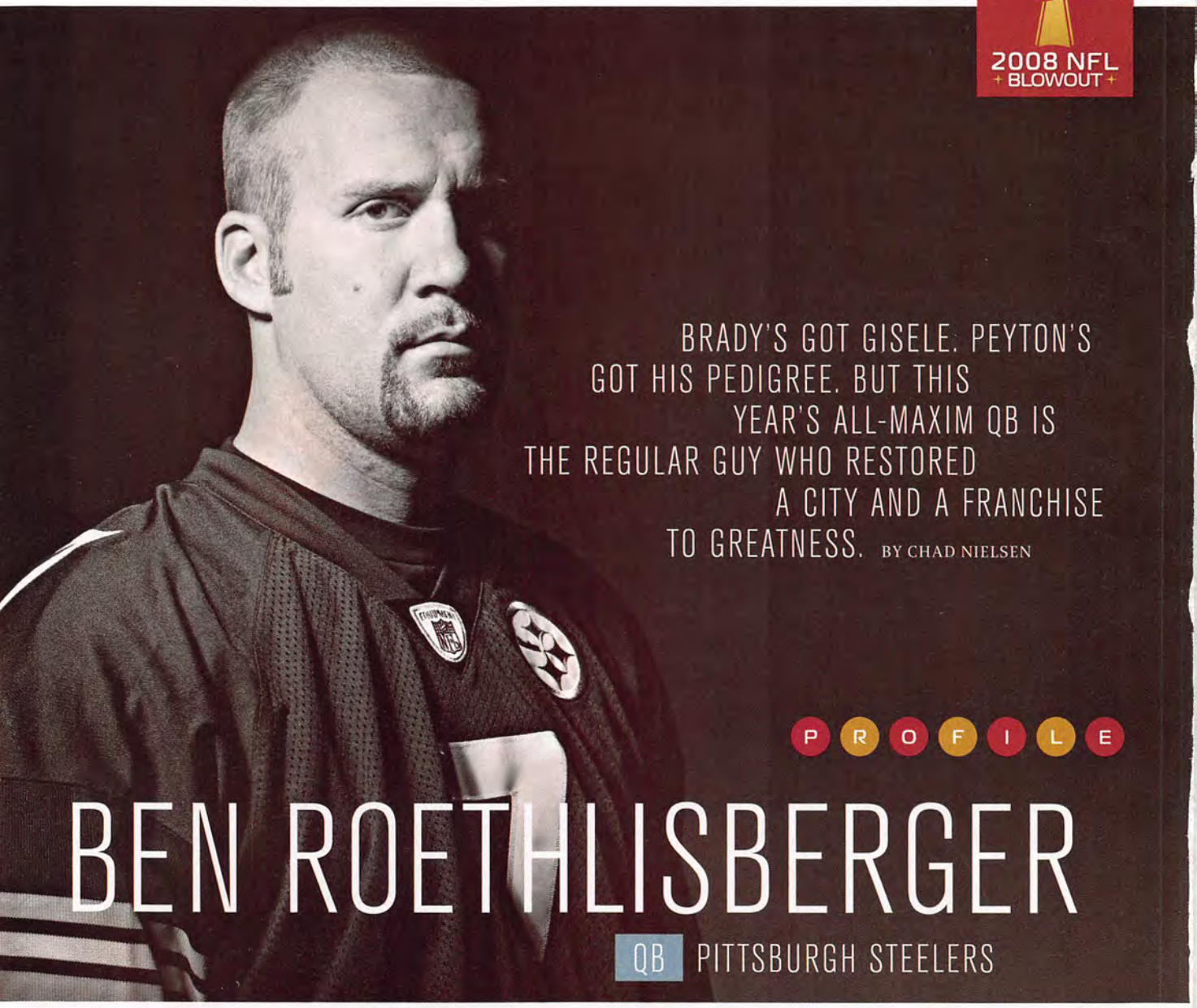


BRADY'S GOT GISELE. PEYTON'S GOT HIS PEDIGREE. BUT THIS YEAR'S ALL-MAXIM QB IS THE REGULAR GUY WHO RESTORED A CITY AND A FRANCHISE TO GREATNESS. BY CHAD NIELSEN

PROFILE

BEN ROETHLISBERGER

QB PITTSBURGH STEELERS

You might expect to find an off-duty NFL quarterback lounging in the VIP section of a club in Vegas or South Beach. But if you're looking for Ben Roethlisberger, check the dive bars across the river from downtown Pittsburgh. "Pittsburgh is Iron City, Yuengling, and Rolling Rock," Roethlisberger says. "It's about the tough bars where the steelworkers and the coal miners hang out. It's great to have a beer with them."

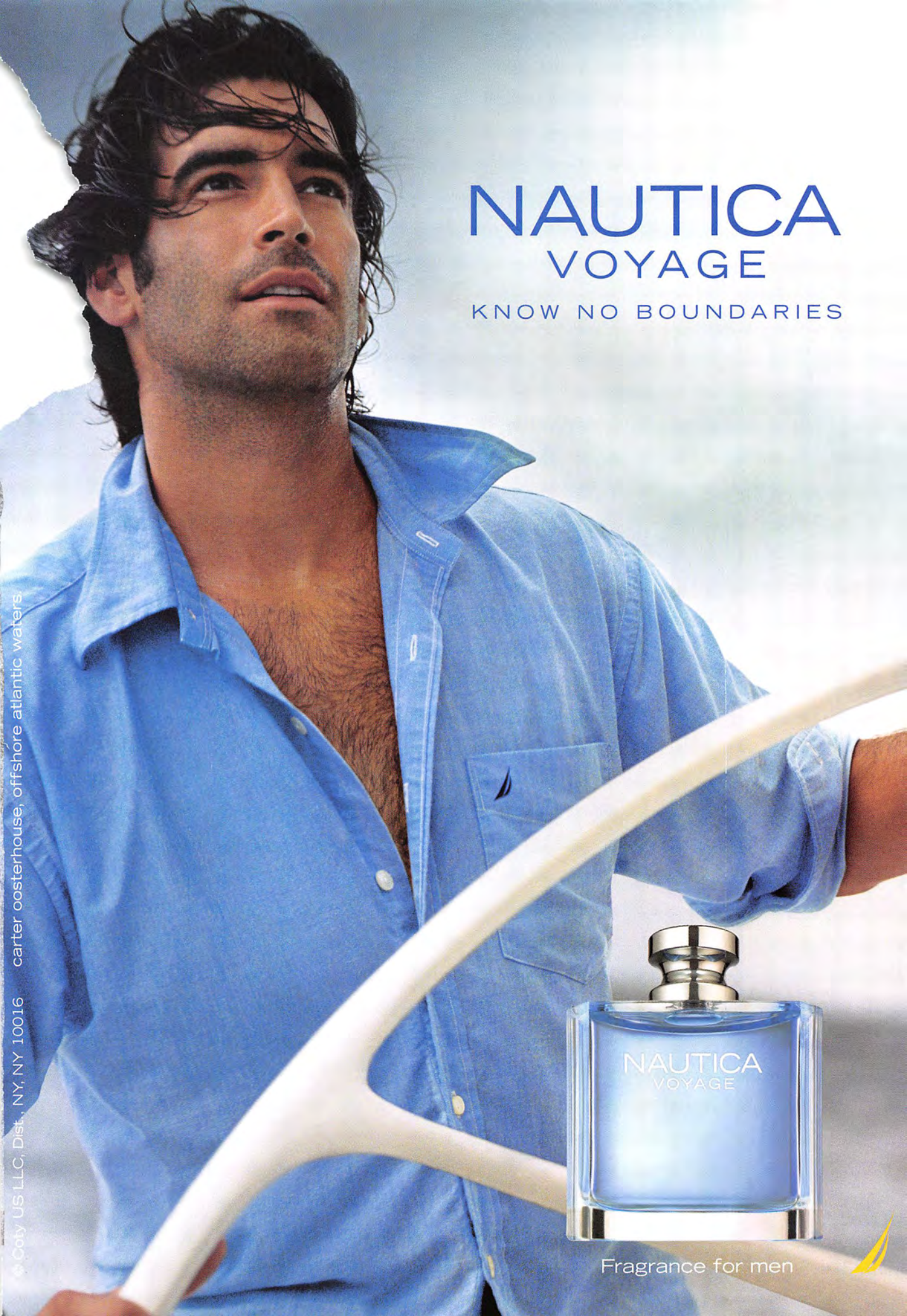
After a disappointing 2006 season following his near-fatal motorcycle crash, Roethlisberger proved last fall, in his fourth year, that he truly belongs among the NFL's elite QBs. He finished behind only Tom Brady in passing efficiency and earned his first Pro Bowl nod. He also showed he can take over a game—as he did against Baltimore in week nine, passing for five TDs in the first half. It was a statistically perfect game (with a max rating of 158.3), one of two in 2007 and three in his career, which ties him with Peyton Manning for the league record. In a generation of QBs who seem to have been groomed for the position—Brady, Philip Rivers, Mannings II and III—Roethlisberger is a throwback: a sturdy, hard-nosed everyman who can be relied on to make the small plays as well as the big. "He's got everything," says ESPN NFL writer and analyst John Clayton. "He's tough, physical, and a good leader. Whenever he needs to make a drive happen, he can."

The Steelers handed Roethlisberger a $102 million contract extension in the off-season, but off the field, in his oversize T-shirts and backward baseball caps, Big Ben morphs into an average 26-year-old dude. While he still admits to a soft spot for fancy, fast machines like his Jaguar XKR ("It's my downfall."), his other hobbies are as all-American as it gets: grilling, hunting geese, and riding ATVs. He's a more perfect fit for this blue-collar town than even the legendary Terry Bradshaw—a savior who has brought the Steelers franchise and its beloved city back to life.

Roethlisberger grew up four hours west, in Findlay, Ohio, a factory town near Toledo. He didn't play QB until his

MARK MANN

WILDCARDS: AL MICHAELS PROFESSES LOVE FOR JOHN MADDEN IN THE BOOTH, 20:1 > DESPITE RETIREMENT, BRETT FAVRE IS STILL HIT BY *MADDEN* COVER CURSE, 1:1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AVAILABLE AT MACY'S

senior year in high school, then went on to helm the offense at Miami University—in Ohio. "I'm not a surfer from California," he says. "I'm not a pretty boy. I come from a blue-collar mill-town background. That's why I fit in well here."

Picked 11th overall in the 2004 NFL draft, Roethlisberger was a dark horse but led his team to 14 straight wins and the conference title game as a rookie. A year later the Steelers won Super Bowl XL (their first since 1980), and talking heads started comparing him to Dan Marino and Joe Montana.

By 2006, Roethlisberger was Pittsburgh's kind of star. He tooled around town on his Suzuki Hayabusa—a 185 mph crotch rocket—and appeared in a music video with local country group PovertyNeck Hillbillies. He slapped his name on barbecue sauce, jerky, and "the Roethlisburger," a hoagie stuffed with ground beef, Italian sausage, scrambled eggs, fried onions, and American cheese, created by Peppi's, a local sandwich shop. "Everyone here lives for the Steelers 24/7," says owner and Pittsburgh native Lou Bosser. "Ben brought the city back to where it was in the '70s."

But one wrong turn threatened to take it all away. On a Monday morning June 2006, Roethlisberger was riding his motorcycle without a helmet when a Chrysler New Yorker turned in front of him, and he smashed the car's windshield with his head. He suffered fractures to the jaw and nose, lost two teeth, and almost bled to death through a cut in his throat. "I was 30 seconds from dying," he says.

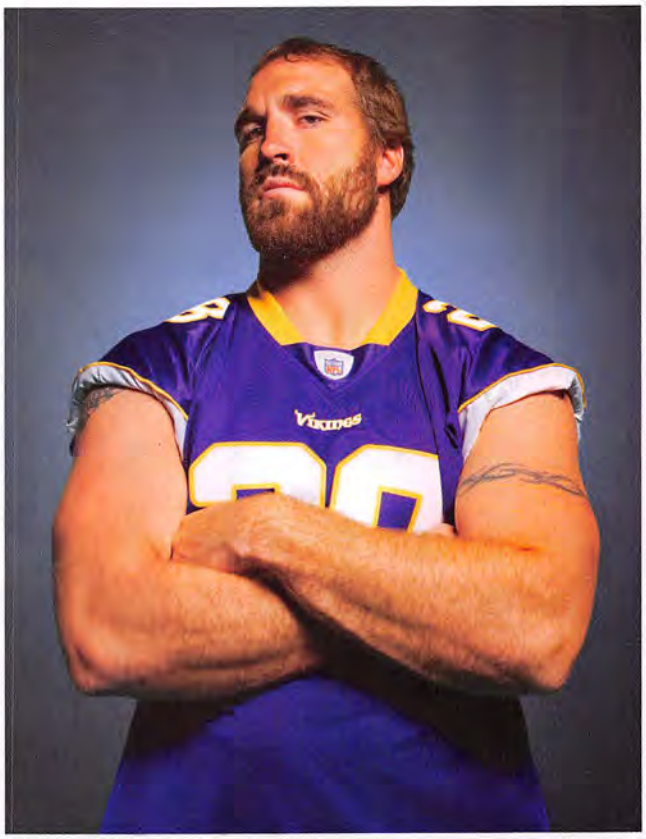
He fought his way back, playing in 15 games, but threw 23 interceptions—more than the previous two years combined. The Steelers finished 8-8, and Roethlisberger fell out of favor with the national media. After each game he went home to Zeus, his Rottweiler, and Hercules, his Bernese mountain dog. "Those are my only children," he says. "When I come home from a game, no matter how good or bad I play, they don't know the difference."

Two years later, Roethlisberger's back on top. If there was any doubt the Steelers are his team, consider the local newspapers' report that he asked management for some taller receivers; this year's training camp roster included four WRs who are 6'3" or taller. The reloaded squad may have the best shot to dethrone the Patriots and Colts in the AFC.

The Steelers—and the city of Pittsburgh—are betting on their $102 million workhorse to take them there. And he won't let them down. "Pittsburgh is perfect for me. I don't want to go anywhere else," he says. "The first job I ever had is the one I have right now. It's working all right for me."

"Hey, you guys wanna take this party back to my room?" asked No. 69.

Q & A


MARIUS BUGGE

DE JARED ALLEN, VIKINGS

Last year he shaved a stripe into his mullet for each sack. For '08 he's got a new do and a new team. Watch out.

YOU'RE A RODEO FAN. CAN YOU COMPARE GETTING KNOCKED OFF A HORSE TO GETTING PANCAKED BY AN OFFENSIVE LINEMAN LIKE ORLANDO PACE?
I grew up on a ranch, riding and roping, cutting and branding. My grandpa and dad thought it was funny to put me and my older brother on the backs of cows as kids to see who could stay on longer. You can really get the wind knocked out of you in both, but you've got to just get up and, you know, get back on the horse.

IN THE OFF-SEASON, YOU WENT CLIFF DIVING, SWAM WITH SHARKS, AND HUNTED FOR WILD BOAR. HOW ELSE DO YOU GET AN ADRENALINE FIX?
I traveled to Spain and went running with the bulls. That was one of the coolest experiences of my entire life.

HOW DO YOUR COACHES FEEL ABOUT ALL THIS THRILL SEEKING?
They pretend to hate it, but I think they enjoy the adventurous side of me. I got love for life. They don't want someone who plays like a robot.

WHAT'S YOUR STRATEGY ON TRASH TALKING?
I do it as much as I possibly can. If I can get them thinking about wanting to fight me, then I've already won. But mothers and sisters are off-limits. Wives and children, too. Mostly, I'll question a guy's manhood in various ways. Let him know he's completely worthless. Tell him how bad I beat him and that I'm about to do it again. And again.

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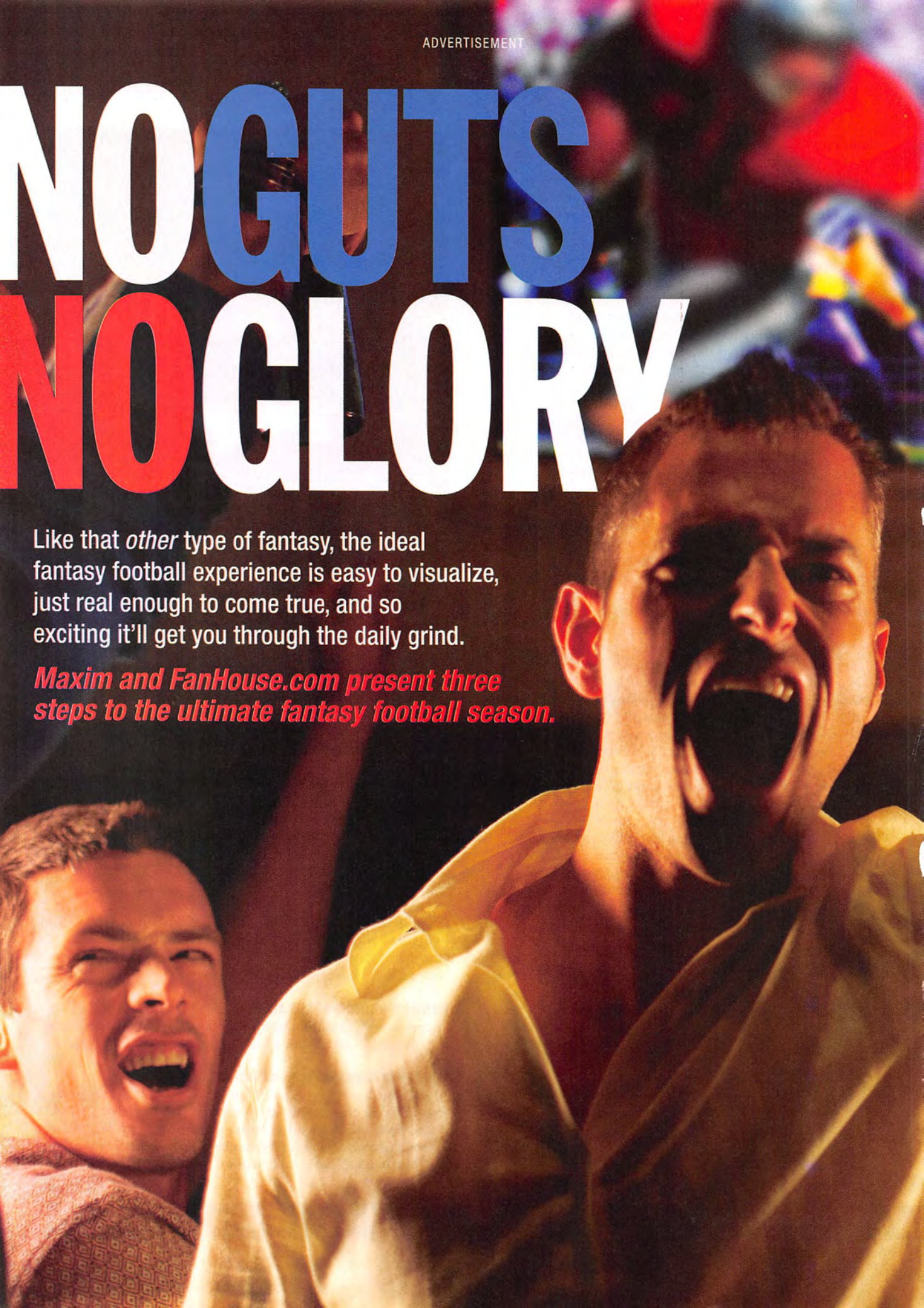


NO GUTS NO GLORY

Like that *other* type of fantasy, the ideal fantasy football experience is easy to visualize, just real enough to come true, and so exciting it'll get you through the daily grind.

Maxim and FanHouse.com present three steps to the ultimate fantasy football season.

1 PRESEASON

Register for a draft account at FanHouse.com. Unlike other fantasy football sites, it's designed for fans, by fans. FanHouse Fantasy Football gives you:

- A simple, fantasy—er, user-friendly interface
- Instinctive controls and content
- Free draft guide
- Live draft and scoring (just try scoring for free in the *other* fantasy universe)
- FREE access! (Ditto: see above)

2 REGULAR SEASON

Hightail it to one of five Ultimate Maxim Fantasy Draft Parties, featuring free internet access, likeminded gridiron gurus, free food and beer specials… oh, and some **very hot Maxim models**. Who says fantasies can't come true?*

Miami · August 13
Gatsby's

Chicago · August 14
Northside Bar and Grill

Washington, D.C. · August 20
Buffalo Billiards

New York City · August 21
Coppersmith's Bar and Grill

San Francisco · August 21
Jillian's

*Event times and venues subject to change. Go to maxim.com/fanhouse for details

Can't bear to part with your precious laptop for more than a few minutes? Throw your own ultimate football fantasy draft party in the comfort of your own home, but at least promise us you'll do it Maxim-style:

- **BE PREPARED** Research your first pick plus backups for every position.
- **STOCK THE FRIDGE** Keep you and your guests happy with a bevy of cold brews.
- **WRITE OUT THE RULES** This is a fantasy draft, not a cage fight.
- **KEEP THE PARTY GOING** Once all the teams are complete and coaches are happy, turn up the tunes and invite over some ladies. You do know some chicks, right?

Go to **maxim.com/fanhouse** for more tips on how to throw the perfect draft party, then upload your party pics to the online gallery!

3 POSTSEASON

WIN!

Painstaking number crunching didn't pay off? Don't get your jersey in a bundle. **Go to maxim.com/fanhouse and enter to win the ultimate fantasy trip to Tampa for the Big Game,** along with tickets to Maxim's infamous Big Game Party.*

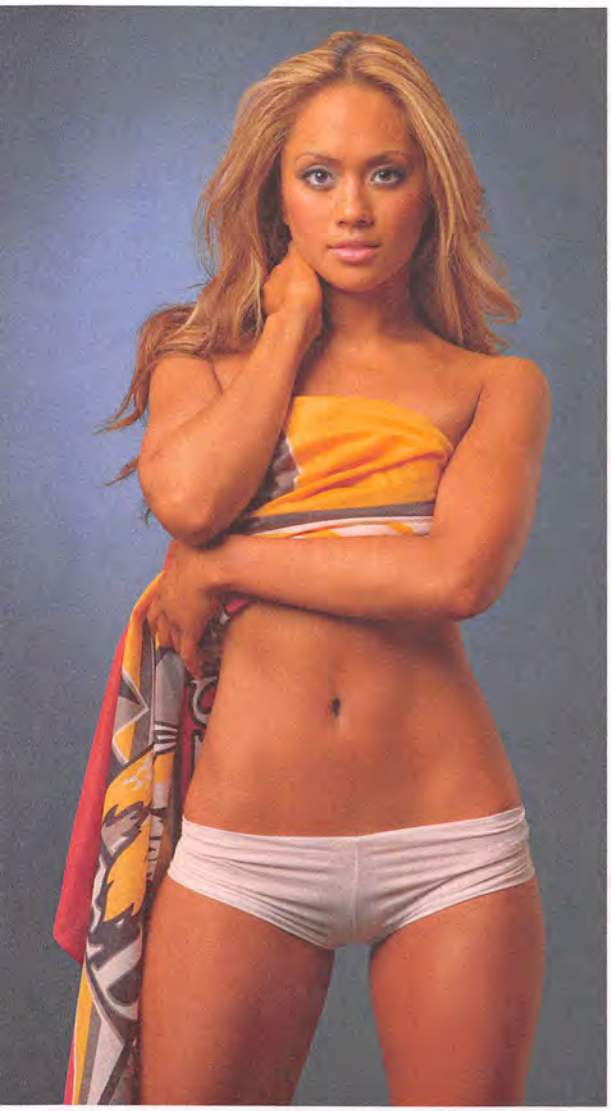
*Please visit maxim.com/fanhouse to see the complete set of official rules. No purchase necessary. Open to U.S. residents 21 years and over. Void where prohibited. Sweepstakes will run 7/31/08–9/7/08.

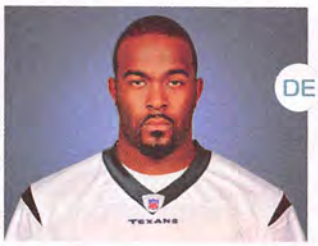
FANHOUSE.com
FANTASY FOOTBALL

FIVE BURNING QUESTIONS

Q: Thanks to NFL parity, a team can go from the penthouse to the cellar in a single season. Who will be this year's Dolphins, they of the putrescent 1-15 record last season?

While the Kansas City Chiefs, who lost their last nine games in '07, are worthy contenders, no team has less to look forward to than the Atlanta Falcons. To be sure, they had a uniquely craptacular 2007, what with the Michael Vick imbroglio and coach Bobby Petrino tossing his squad under the bus after 13 games. But this year could be worse: Their QB options are run-averse rookie Matt Ryan and completion-averse Joey Harrington; they replaced RB Warrick Dunn with unproven Michael Turner; and new head coach Mike Smith has no NFL experience. Plus, the D sucks donkeys. In other words, Atlanta hasn't had it this bad since Sherman's march.

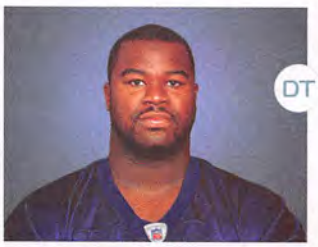




DE

MARIO WILLIAMS • HOUSTON TEXANS

When Williams was selected as the top pick in the 2006 draft, Texans fans booed the team for passing on Reggie Bush. But after racking up 14 sacks last year, the physical freak (how many 6'6", 293-pound guys can run a 4.6 40 or have a 40-inch vertical?) had the last laugh. "I'm the strongest. Everyone knows it," says Williams of his superhuman talent. "I'm like Hancock. But I don't drink as much."*



DT

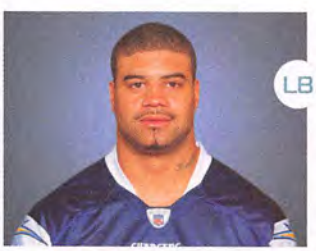
ALBERT HAYNESWORTH • TENNESSEE TITANS

In '06 Haynesworth suffered a tarnished rep—and a five-game suspension—for stepping on the helmetless head of Cowboys center Andre Gurode. But, bless his heart, the man nicknamed "Painsworth" refuses to change his playing style: "Brute force. Physical. Just get at them. No finesse." Last year the 6'6", 320-pound beast racked up six sacks on the way to his first Pro Bowl nod.

D

HALOTI NGATA • BALTIMORE RAVENS

If there's one sight that can make a grown man soil his pants, it's a 6'4", 340-pound Togan running full speed toward him on punt coverage, like that giant boulder in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Pain: imminent. Ngata first filled that role at Oregon, where he was the Ducks' first all-American in 43 years. Then, in Baltimore, he established himself as the anchor of the NFL's best defensive line.



LB

SHAWNE MERRIMAN • SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Merriman earned his nickname, "Lights Out," as a high school sophomore when he knocked out four players in one half. As a pro he's notched double-digit sacks in each of his three seasons, including a league-high 17 in '06 despite a pesky four-game steroids suspension. What does he say to opponents who talk smack? "I'm like an elephant in that I don't forget these things." Mommy!

CB

AL HARRIS • GREEN BAY PACKERS

Harris brings the "bump" to bump-and-run coverage better than any other cornerback in the league. When he was with the Eagles, he committed a foul so hard it prompted a ref to say, "That's dirty, 31." His nickname became "Dirty One," and he's been tormenting receivers ever since—maybe too much for his own good. These days teams have simply stopped throwing his way. Scaredy-cats!

*Read Mario's full interview at Maxim.com.

ANABEL DELA CERNA — POM SQUAD

Age: 26 • **Washington Redskins**

What kind of perks do you have as a cheerleader that don't come with your day job as a data analyst? Besides the cute short skirt.
My squad went to Iraq in November. We put on shows for the troops. We actually stayed in Saddam Hussein's palace, which was surreal. We slept in his guesthouse, and I sat on his throne.

His toilet or his actual throne?
Both, actually!

JIM MALUCCI (ANABEL)

DALLAS COWBOYS TORN APART BY BIZARRE TONY ROMO-JESSICA SIMPSON-PACMAN JONES LOVE TRIANGLE, 25,000:1 > THE PLAYOFFS ARE MANNING-FREE, 100:1 >

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MAXIM PRESENTS

VERIZON WIRELESS GIRL OF THE MONTH

THEY SAY IT TAKES TEN YEARS to become a real New Yorker, but Denver native Rachel Risen, who moved to the Big Apple six years ago to pursue acting, walks the walk and talks the talk of the big city.

Q: How did you decide to model for Maxim?

A: I've always loved Maxim. Who doesn't want to model for Maxim? Come on!

Q: What's the biggest risk you've ever taken?

A: I went skydiving last year. I was absolutely terrified, but it was a lot of fun.

> "I love to go out and dance, plus I'm a bartender. I love the nightlife."

Q: What do you use your phone for besides talking or texting?

A: Music. I have Verizon's Samsung Juke, which I thoroughly love listening to on the subway.

Q: Describe your ideal man.

A: He's gotta be real sexy. But more than anything, he can't take himself too seriously. He's gotta laugh at himself and know how to laugh at life.

Rachel Risen Photograph by Amber Grey

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2008 NFL BLOWOUT

THE WRONGEST YARD

We revisit the most mind-boggling scenes in pigskin-picture history.

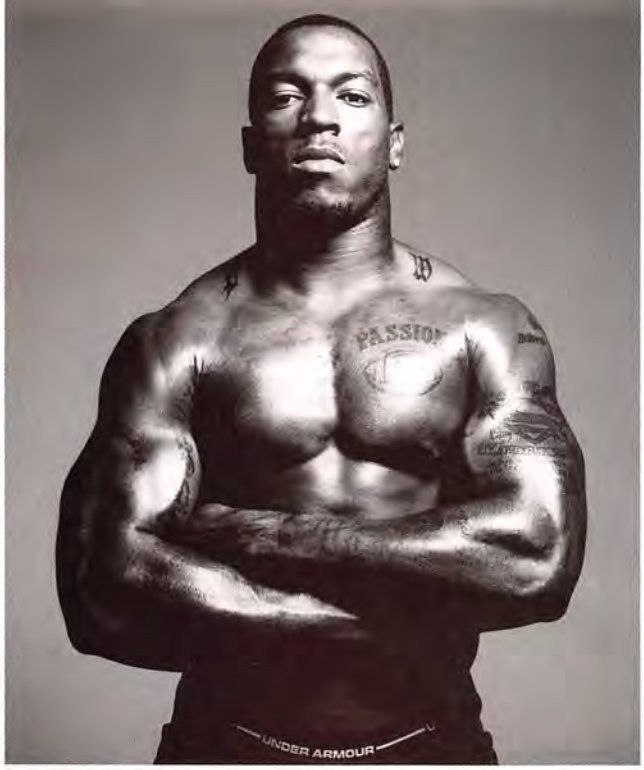
Any Given Sunday
The Miami Sharks, led by quarterback Steamin' Willie Beamen (Jamie Foxx), are mounting an improbable playoff comeback at the goal line when an opposing lineman at the bottom of the pile starts screaming like a 'roided-up Girl Scout. Cut to an entire eyeball, including a foot of bloody optic nerve—all of it completely intact—lying on the turf. Even for director Oliver Stone, this is totally ridiculous.

Forrest Gump
Tom Hanks' dimwitted Gump transforms from a bullied child with leg braces to a lightning-fast kick returner with a full ride to Divison I University of Alabama. A former peg leg running a kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown is about as likely as Stephen Hawking winning the gold in the pommel horse. But at least they got the part about a barely literate athlete getting a full scholarship right.

Air Bud: Golden Receiver
The sequel to *Air Bud* brings the same athletically gifted four-legged friend from the basketball court to the junior high gridiron. When wide receiver Bud starts eviscerating kiddie football teams like a chew toy, none of the opposing coaches seem to mind. There are no signs of confusion that a dog is on the field and not one parent on the sidelines protesting, "Hey, No. 74 just gave my kid rabies!"

The Last Boy Scout
In the opening scene, a receiver gets a phone call from a line-fixing mobster, who warns the player that he'll get whacked if he doesn't score a few TDs. After catching a pass on his first play, the desperate baller breaks three tackles en route to the end zone, then pulls a pistol from his pants and shoots three defensive players, then himself. Typically, the refs don't call offensive interference.

Q & A



MARIUS BUGBE

LB PATRICK WILLIS, 49ERS

As a rookie in '07, he set the league record for tackles with 226. Offenses, be afraid. Be very afraid.

YOU HAD A ROUGH CHILDHOOD AND MOVED IN WITH A COACH AT 16. BUT YOU'VE BEEN UPSET BY EXAGGERATIONS OF YOUR UPBRINGING.

One person said I was doing all the cooking and cleaning in my house by age six. Really? How is that even possible? Another story had me picking cotton to support my family. I never picked cotton. I would clear the weeds away from the cotton so the machines could scoop it up. People stopped picking cotton by hand a long time ago.

ANY PERSONAL GOALS BESIDES WINNING THE SUPER BOWL?

There's a questionnaire in *Madden* when you're making your own players. It asks, "Would you prefer to have fame or fortune?" I'll always take fame. People lose fortunes every day. Someone will get it, whether it's Uncle Sam or someone you leave it to. But fame, that's yours. If people see me as one of the greatest linebackers ever to play the game, they're going to come to see me at the Hall of Fame. They're not going to walk up to a big pile of money and say, "Hey, that's Patrick Willis' money!"

CRAPHOUSE CALCULATOR

The five worst stadium experiences in the NFL, according to our superscientific formula. Geek out!

$$\left[\frac{\left[\left(\frac{\text{Attd}}{75}\right)^3\left(\frac{\$¢}{300}\right)^2\sqrt[3]{\frac{\text{Wl}}{15000}+1}\sqrt{35-\text{Tg}}\sqrt[3]{\frac{\text{Chl}}{15000}}\sqrt{\text{Temp}+4}\right]}{\sqrt{\frac{6\$\text{b}}{\$\text{i}}}\left(\sqrt{\text{Ysb}+1}+\sqrt{\$\text{x}}+\sqrt{\frac{\text{Crm}}{10}}+\text{A}\right)}+\text{X}\right]=\text{Wsl}$$

- *Average attendance as percentage of capacity in 2007–2008 season*
- *Cost of stadium construction, in millions (not adjusted for inflation)*
- *Number of people on the waiting list for season tickets*
- *"Tailgating friendliness" rank, according to Web site Hightech tailgating.com*
- *Google hits for "[team name] cheerleaders"*
- *Average low temperature during the city's coldest month (if dome, penalize by entering zero)*
- *Price of stadium beer*
- *Average fan income*
- *Years since team has won the Super Bowl (if never, enter 50)*
- *Price of a ticket*
- *City's crime index, according to City-data.com*
- *On a scale from 1–10, 10 being the worst, awfulness of the local accent*

Add the following:
- *Tradition of showing breasts at halftime? (If so, add 5)*
- *Loudness of stadium (5 points for loudest, 3 for midrange, 2 for quietest)*
- *Number of times stadium has hosted Super Bowl*
- *City's rank in the top 10 markets for female NFL fans (10 is highest)*

RESULTS

The five worst stadiums in the NFL, in order, are:

1. Edward Jones Dome, St. Louis Rams
2. Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, Minnesota Vikings
3. Candlestick Park, San Francisco 49ers
4. Ford Field, Detroit Lions
5. Bank of America Stadium, Carolina Panthers

Don't wait for this one: We're looking for the next Evan Williams Bourbon Girl

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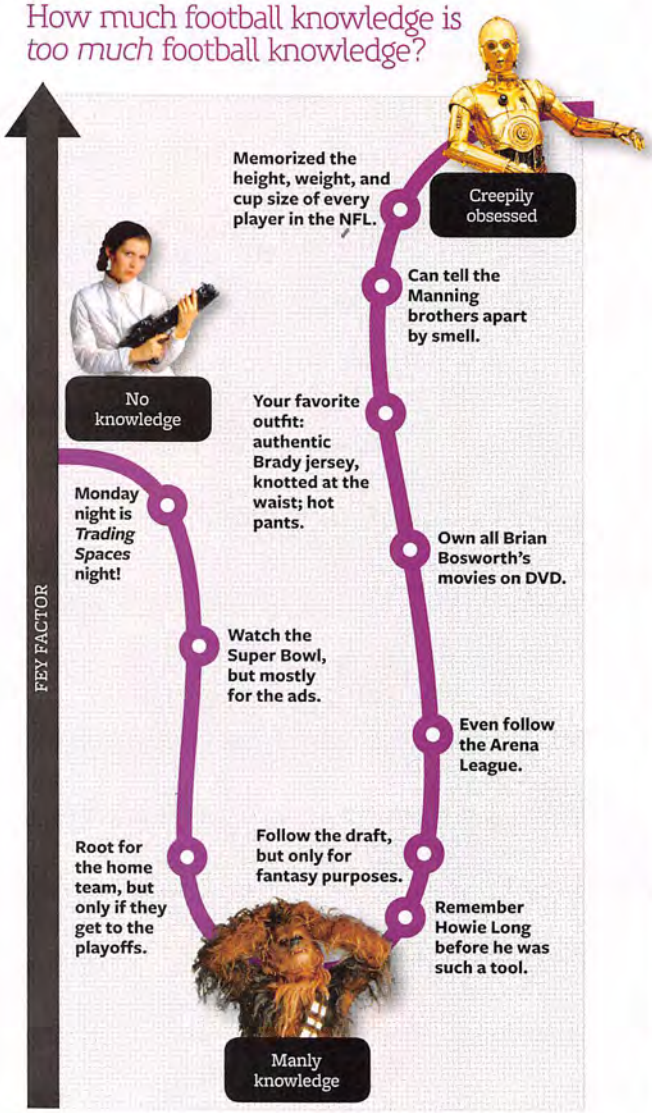
GAY-O-METER

How much football knowledge is *too much* football knowledge?


FEY FACTOR
No knowledge
Monday night is *Trading Spaces* night!
Root for the home team, but only if they get to the playoffs.
Watch the Super Bowl, but mostly for the ads.
Follow the draft, but only for fantasy purposes.
Manly knowledge
Your favorite outfit: authentic Brady jersey, knotted at the waist; hot pants.
Can tell the Manning brothers apart by smell.
Memorized the height, weight, and cup size of every player in the NFL.
Creepily obsessed
Own all Brian Bosworth's movies on DVD.
Even follow the Arena League.
Remember Howie Long before he was such a tool.

FIVE BURNING QUESTIONS

Q: Screw QBs and linebackers. What's really the most exciting position in the NFL?

If there's one player who can inject a game with a jolt of adrenaline, it's the return man. Exhibit A: Last November, Cleveland's Josh Cribbs ran a Pittsburgh kick back 100 yards with 11 minutes left in the game, giving the Browns the lead. "Every return, I think, *This could be the deciding factor,*" says Cribbs, who took three to the house in '07. "Sometimes it is." From Chicago's Devin Hester to the Jets' Leon Washington to Cribbs, suicide men are hogging highlight reels and transforming the game. This season, look for Philly's DeSean Jackson to join the fun.

ANTONIO CROMARTIE • SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
This freak opened eyes last October when he picked off two passes, recovered a fumble, and scored two TDs against Houston. The next game he returned a missed Vikings field goal 109 yards—the longest play in NFL history. The following week Cromartie picked off Peyton Manning three times. Oh, and the guy can throw the ball 80 yards in practice. Watch your back, Philip Rivers.

TROY POLAMALU • PITTSBURGH STEELERS
Polamalu hasn't cut his mane since 2000, and he's been one of the hardest hitters in the game all the while. Maintenance takes work and money—he once noted, "You need to rotate shampoo and conditioner every couple of weeks"—but fits in with his other hobbies, like winemaking, piano playing, and cultivating orchids. Go ahead and laugh. We dare you.

BOB SANDERS • INDIANAPOLIS COLTS
Standing just 5'8", Sanders is an everyman. Well, if every man were 206 pounds of pure muscle, could run a 4.3 40, and had a 41.5-inch vertical. Remember in 2006 when the Colts suddenly became a defensive juggernaut and won the Super Bowl? That just happened to correspond with Sanders' return from injury. The accolades followed—last year he earned Defensive Player of the Year.

SPECIAL TEAMS

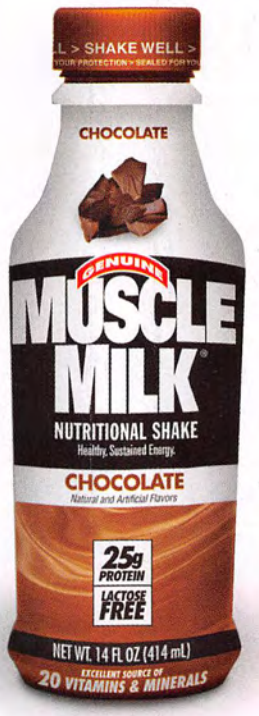
JEFF REED • PITTSBURGH STEELERS
Talk about clutch: Last season Reed nailed 92 percent of his field goal attempts overall—including *100 percent* of those in the fourth quarter. But it's his equally balls-out attitude off the field that makes Reed All-*Maxim* material. Check sports blog Deadspin for Reed's self-portrait cell shots: shirtless, goofy-grinned, and, um, exposing his stem for his female fans. (Or take our word for it.)

DEVIN HESTER • CHICAGO BEARS
Since entering the league in '06, Hester has rewritten the record book each season. As a rookie he set the mark for most returns for touchdowns with five (and returned one on the first play of the Super Bowl for good measure); he bested the feat with six in '07. So in 32 games, he's brought himself two TD returns shy of the career mark set by Brian Mitchell—in more than 223 games.

SHANE LECHLER • OAKLAND RAIDERS
The current recordholder for best average yards per punt in a career with 46.5, Lechler has the strongest leg in NFL history. (This is a guy who once booted an 85-yard punt *in high school.*) And he might have the biggest stones, too. Last November the 6'2", 225-pound Texan held speedster Devin Hester to just 2.3 yards per return...and ran him out of bounds the one time he broke free.

› SENATOR ARLEN SPECTER JOINS *MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL* TEAM, ONE BILLION:1 › MATT LEINART CREATES MORE PLAYOFF WINS THAN OUT-OF-WEDLOCK KIDS, 5:1 ›

IF YOU WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE IN THIS MAGAZINE TO SEE YOU NAKED, YOU NEED TO DRINK THIS STUFF!



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Now let's talk about who's who and who's going to see who naked.

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POM SQUAD

RACHEL WATSON

Age: 23 • **Tampa Bay Buccaneers**

What is a buccaneer, exactly?
It's a type of pirate.

Do you think it's appropriate to glorify a group of people who are infamous for raping and pillaging?
No, I don't! But that's not our kind of buccaneer. Ours is very, very nice and does not rape or pillage.

You're a veteran on the squad. Do you haze the rookies when they start?
Not really, but we have a retreat the week after you make the team, and it's a team-bonding weekend. There's no hazing or anything—we just want to show them what this means to us and how things are, so it's kind of an introduction to cheerleading and a lot of team-building activities.

What's the most important quality a good cheerleader should have?
Obviously, looks come into play a lot, but with our team, what I find most important, and what all our girls have, is personality. We have full-time jobs and we're in school, and we have a life outside of cheerleading. We're very well-rounded and down-to-earth.

And enthusiastic!
Yeah, I have a very energetic personality, and I'm positive about most things.

What about rising gas prices?
OK, I'm not enthusiastic about that. I don't think anyone's enthusiastic about that.

Contributors: Sean Cunningham, Mike Dolan, KC Joyner, Jonah Keri, Laura Leu, Steve Mazzucchi, Sam Means, Chad Nielsen, Mike Olson, Hampton Stevens. Thanks to Danny Sheridan for all odds calculations and Garth Sundem, author of *Geek Logik: 50 Foolproof Equations for Everyday Life*, for worst-stadiums formula.

JIM MALUCCI

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ICON

NICOLAS CAGE

THE REFORMED WILD MAN, WHO PLAYS A HITMAN IN *BANGKOK DANGEROUS*, TAKES AIM AT HORROR COMICS, MILITARY COUPS, AND EARLY RETIREMENT.

BY STEVEN RUSSELL

IS *BANGKOK DANGEROUS* ANOTHER OVER-THE-TOP ACTION FLICK?
The studio may promote it that way, but it's as far away from *National Treasure* as you can get. I want to go on record that I don't see *Bangkok Dangerous* as an action movie at all. It's a drama dealing with racial themes in the 1960s. The crew was Thai, and the directors, Danny Pang and Oxide Pang Chun, are twin Chinese brothers. Some days nobody spoke any English.

HOW WAS FILMING WITH AN ALL-ASIAN CREW?
It reminded me of Clint Eastwood going off to Italy to make spaghetti westerns. I couldn't tell if Oxide or Danny was directing the scene. Though they may not admit it publicly, I think they had some fun with me.

HOW DID YOU DEAL WITH THE MILITARY COUP THAT HAPPENED IN THAILAND DURING FILMING?
It happened when we were shooting at night, and I walked off the set, rode a boat on the Chao Phraya River back to the hotel, woke up my wife and our little son, Kal-el, and my father-in-law, drove them to the airport and got on a plane to Korea with them, dropped them off, hopped on another plane, and flew back to Thailand to report to the set the next night.

SOUNDS INTENSE.
My priority was to keep my family safe. But before the coup, someone from the king's cabinet had given me a shirt bearing the king's emblem. The Thai people still love their king, and if you're wearing that emblem, you're 100 percent safe. So when the coup went down, I knew it was time to put on that shirt. It was like a cloak of invincibility.

ARE YOU AN ADVENTUROUS EATER IN SUCH EXOTIC LOCALES?
I have an international mind, so I'm not going to eat at a KFC in Bangkok—I want the real culture. But my 16-year-old son, Weston, was the really brave one on this trip. He ate a fried giant black scorpion. The next day he still had scorpion bits stuck in his braces. Apparently, it tastes nutty with an egg yolk aftertaste.

DOES BEING SIX FEET TALL PRESENT PROBLEMS IN HOLLYWOOD, WHERE MOST LEADING MEN ARE THE HEIGHT OF MUPPETS?
[*Laughs*] No, but I did choose to "act" shorter once. Everything about my character in *Adaptation* was mentally and physically small, so I hunched over to seem less tall.

WHEN YOU AUCTIONED OFF YOUR COMIC BOOK COLLECTION IN 2002 FOR $1.6 MILLION, WERE THERE ANY TITLES YOU COULDN'T PART WITH?
I kept all the horror comics that got banned in the 1950s, like EC Comics' *Tales From the Crypt* and *The Haunt of Fear*, because those became very special to me. The cover illustrations were so potent, such as a flaming spear through an eyeball. Great stuff. And I kept my entire *Ghost Rider* collection.

WHAT DO YOU COLLECT NOW?
Old books. I really like to get into reading an old leather-bound first edition. There's an element of time travel to opening a book from the 1600s.

"I'M NO LONGER DRIVING 170 MILES PER HOUR IN A '64 FERRARI WITH THE TOP DOWN."

YOU WENT TO HOLLYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL WITH CRISPIN GLOVER, LENNY KRAVITZ, DAVID SCHWIMMER, AND SLASH. WHICH ONE OF YOU WAS THE MOST POPULAR?
Lenny was always a cool guy. When I acted in a school production of *Oklahoma!*, he was in the band providing the music, so I can say I've worked with Lenny Kravitz. It was an interesting group, to say the least. It reminds me of when Jimi Hendrix and Bruce Lee attended the same high school in Seattle. You want to believe they hung out together.

ONCE YOU MADE IT IN HOLLYWOOD, WERE YOU TEMPTED TO PULL A JOHN MELLENCAMP AND CHANGE YOUR NAME BACK TO COPPOLA?
To be fair to my family, my legal name is still Coppola. When I started out, I felt the need to re-create myself, and the name Cage has served me well for so long it has become my reality. I like my alter ego.

WHICH OF YOUR UNCLE FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA'S MOVIES DO YOU WISH HE'D CAST YOU IN?
Dracula, but Gary Oldman was so good, I'm glad it worked out the way it did. That was the only one that really hurt. Still, I was in *The Cotton Club* and *Peggy Sue Got Married*, so I made some good pictures with Francis.

YOU'VE ALSO WORKED WITH THE COEN BROTHERS, DAVID LYNCH, MARTIN SCORSESE, RIDLEY SCOTT, AND JOHN WOO, BUT NEVER QUENTIN TARANTINO. YOU'D BE A GOOD COMBO.
I agree. I like Quentin's movies, and I like him as a person too. I don't know why we haven't worked together.

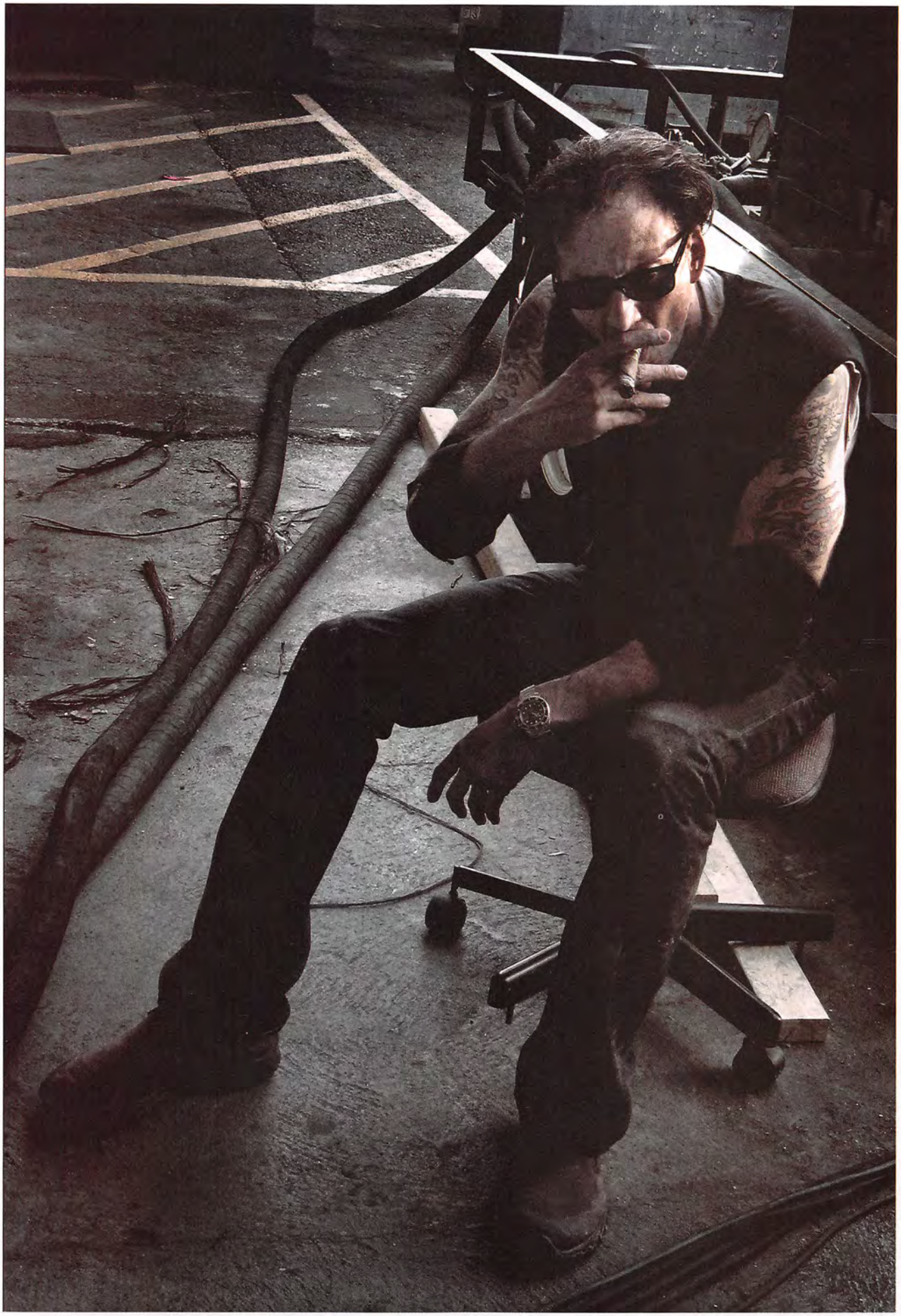
YOU'VE REALLY BEEN ACTING FOR 25 YEARS?
I started when I was 15 and now I'm 44, so it's closer to 30 years. That's crazy.

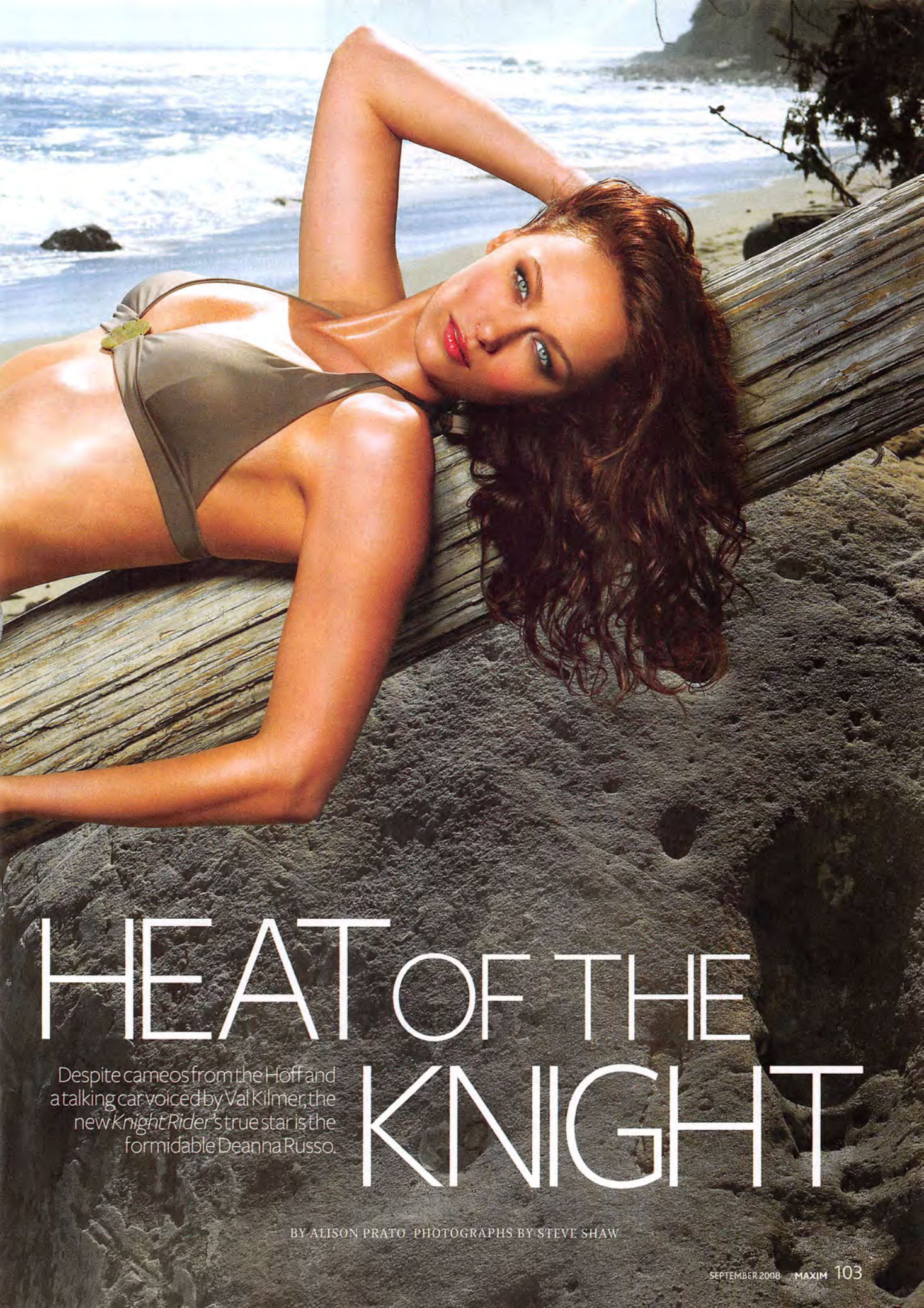
SO WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING IN 30 YEARS?
Well, I'll probably work another five years, until I'm about 50, and then reevaluate what I want to do with the remainder of my life. I'll definitely start introducing other adventures to get the most out of my experience in this life.

YOU COME ACROSS AS A PRETTY INTENSE GUY. WHAT'S THE MOST BORING THING YOU'D BE FOUND DOING ON A LAZY SUNDAY AFTERNOON?
It's pretty much Family Man 101 these days. Metaphorically speaking, I've gone from driving 170 miles per hour in a '64 Ferrari with the top down and a martini in my hand to being a man on a tricycle ringing the toy bell and holding a cup of jelly beans. ●

Bangkok Dangerous becomes the most faux-dirty titled film playing at the multiplex on September 5.

PHOTOGRAPH, ROBERT G. ZUCKERMAN





HEAT OF THE KNIGHT

Despite cameos from the Hoff and a talking car voiced by Val Kilmer, the new *Knight Rider*'s true star is the formidable Deanna Russo.

BY ALISON PRATO PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEVE SHAW

(previous page)
Blue Glue bikini
(this page) **James Perse**
shirt **Diesel** shorts

GREAT NEWS FOR anybody who's stuck in the '80s: NBC is bringing back *Knight Rider,* the iconic TV classic, with a *Transformers*-like KITT, balls-to-the-wall action, and a leading lady who's hotter than any babe from *Dynasty.* Her name is Deanna Russo, and after a recurring role on *The Young and the Restless* and guest spots on everything from *N.C.I.S.* to *CSI,* she's finally in the driver's seat.

WE HEAR YOU'VE BEEN DOING TONS OF FIGHT SCENES AND WEAPONS TRAINING. IF A CRAZY KITT LOVER ATTACKS YOU IN A DARK ALLEY, HOW WILL YOU DEFEND YOURSELF?

My character is known for her kicks and excellent marksmanship. If the attacker is far away, I'll shoot him down, and if he's close, I'll kick him to the ground. In other words, she's not just the good-looking girl in the corner who cries and doesn't know how to defend herself. I'm gonna pick a fight with the boys. I've been learning a mix of everything from karate to kick boxing to doble olisi.

NEVER HEARD OF IT, BUT IT SOUNDS TERRIFYING.

It's a Filipino martial art. You have two bamboo sticks, and you can do some gnarly shit with them. You take someone out, or, if they have a gun, you can disarm them in half a second.

FOR ALL THE *KNIGHT RIDER* FANS OUT THERE, HOW CAN YOU ASSURE THEM YOU GUYS AREN'T BUTCHERING THE FRANCHISE?

The most important part of *Knight Rider* was the car, and we're putting it on the highest pedestal we can—honoring it as this incredible machine. Nowadays, everybody has a talking car, with GPS systems and OnStar, but this KITT is on a whole new level. For example, he's able to morph from a truck bed back into a Mustang.

SO HE'S A TRANSFORMER?

Yeah, and my character borrows a lot from Jennifer Garner in *Alias.* She's a spy, and she's not only in there with her fists but also very intelligent, and she understands every aspect of KITT, so she can fix him and recalibrate him.

DO YOU STILL REMEMBER THE FIRST CAR YOU EVER DROVE?

It was a 1992 Hyundai Excel I got from my cousins. It was white plastic with a manual transmission. I grew up on a farm in New Jersey, so when I was 14 I learned to drive a stick comfortably around the grounds. When I finally got my license, I found out it's one thing to drive on a farm with wide roads, but it's another to drive a stick in vehicular traffic. I *sucked.*

DID YOU GET A LOT OF SPEEDING TICKETS?

I have a lead foot, so yeah. I got busted once on my way to visit my brother in college, and I was devastated. I was probably doing 80 in a 55, which was impressive, because my car only had four cylinders.

YOU COULDN'T GET OUT OF THE TICKET BY SWEET-TALKING THE COP?

Not that time. When I first moved to L.A., I would flirt with cops who pulled me over, smiling and acting stupid. It didn't work—I still got tickets! Then one time a cop pulled me over and started writing me a ticket, and I was like, "No-no-no-no-no!" He was a motorcycle cop, and he was wearing these awful knee-high boots, which I couldn't stop staring at. He noticed, and I think he was embarrassed, so he goes, "Yeah, I know, they're ugly." And he let me off. When I started modeling, I kept my portfolio on my front seat so that anytime I got pulled over I could whip it out.

SUCKERS.

Right? Guys are turned on whenever women play with big toys like cars. Maybe there's some sort of phallic thing with the stick shift. If they see a hot chick playing sports or doing something aggressive, but with long, manicured nails, they seem to think that's sexy. Or maybe it has something to do with the fact that we're better than they are. [*Laughs.*]

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ON A DATE THAT WENT HORRIBLY WRONG?

God, which time? I drank too much on a date one time because I was way too nervous. That was embarrassing. It was in New York, and I wound up in Grand Central Station at 4 A.M., calling my dad in New Jersey to pick me up. Classy, right? But my dad was cool about it. I'd had at least four gin martinis, and I was literally hung over for four days. Needless to say, I don't drink gin anymore. ●

Knight Rider begins September 24 on NBC.

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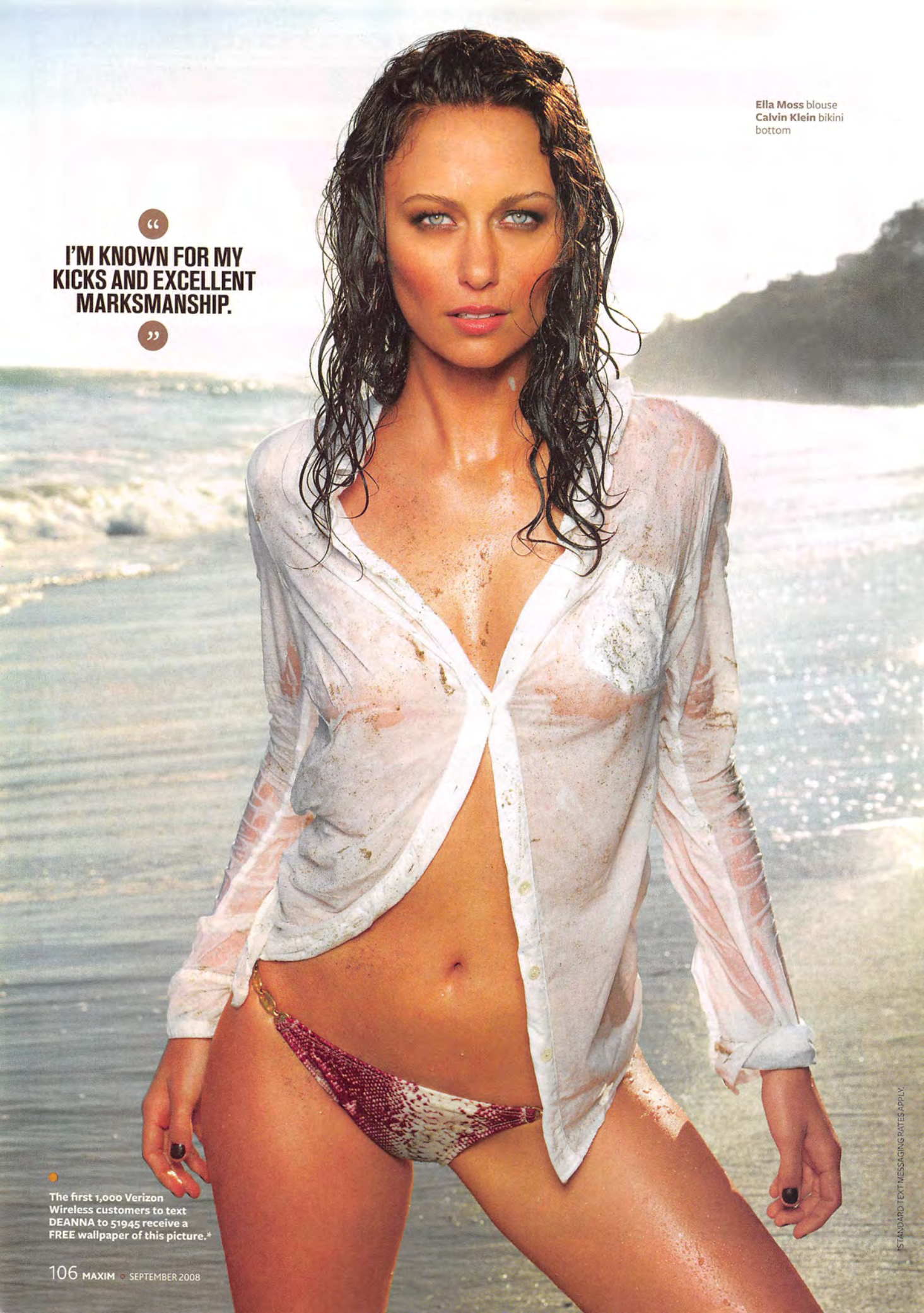

Ella Moss blouse
Calvin Klein bikini bottom

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THE SHOOTING PARTY
Rangers at India's Kaziranga National Park examine a rhino killed by poachers.

THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME

IN INDIA'S WILDS, THE KILLING OF RHINOS FOR THEIR COVETED HORNS IS RISING. SO IS THE HEAD COUNT ON POACHERS, DUE TO ONE VIGILANTE RANGER. WHO WILL BE LEFT STANDING? BY S.L. GUYNUP

UNDER A FULL APRIL MOON, ILLUMINATING A RAMSHACKLE FOREST ranger camp within India's 332-square-mile Kaziranga National Park, muffled gunshots erupt in the night, awakening the camp's inhabitants and sending flocks of wild parrots to flight. Several of the rangers, who have already been out on antipoaching patrols since dusk, comb a few miles of the chilly grasslands for signs of intruders. The air is rank and steamy. Although this is the dry season in Assam, home to India's largest wildlife retreat, unusual tropical monsoons have made the jungle terrain as dangerous as the La Brea tar pits that woolly rhinos once succumbed to. The men are wary. There are tigers on the hunt. An Asiatic buffalo gored one man's legs a month ago. Three of them are still recovering in the hospital after being trampled, bitten, rammed, or gored by the rhinos they are protecting—animals that can run as fast as 35 miles per hour and have been known to batter moving trains, upturn canoes, and sniff out human intruders from as far as a football field away. But clearly there are now more dangerous predators afoot.

Another shot resounds in the night. Three of the men, sweating profusely and lugging hand-me-down Lee-Enfield .303 rifles (half-century-old British Army–issue weapons), head off in the direction of the gunfire. Fresh tracks lead them toward the park's periphery. There a familiar smell enters their senses: the metallic rank of a fresh kill. At their feet is the body of an Indian rhinoceros, weighing some 5,000 pounds. It lies in a growing puddle of its own blood, spilling from a chest wound and a gouge on its nose, marking the spot where its one-foot-long horn has been hacked off and bagged just minutes before.

There is little time. A ranger keys his walkie-talkie, relaying the news to the range officer in charge. His name is Dharanidhar "D.D." Boro, and in this jungle of Indian pythons and rampaging elephants, where everything is its own form of prey, he is to many the most feared of creatures. It is legend that he has personally killed as many as 20 poachers. Some place the body count at 35. Others, far more.

Now the forest rangers are the hunters. Dressed in his pressed khaki uniform, despite having just awoken, the sleepy-eyed Boro rustles up a posse of his armed men. Then the six of them head into the bush. After two decades entrenched in this ongoing battle between poachers and protectors, Boro and his platoon know where the killers are heading in this thicket of natural traps and man-eating wildlife: a one-lane bridge constructed from railroad ties, standing on wood stilts, spanning the deceptively deep Diphlu River. The bridge borders the park, and for poachers it's the pass-go to payday with their bloodied contraband.

The rangers lie in ambush, slung beneath the bridge. Within minutes four men—each about 35 years old and dressed in muddied uniforms similar to those of the rangers—approach the edge of the bridge, readying to cross, their rifles over their shoulders. "Drop your guns!" Boro screams. Then all hell breaks out.

Rattled by the ambush from beneath the bridge, the poachers start shooting in all directions at the invisible foe. Boro and his men fire back from mere feet away, shooting just seven precious rounds. When the gunpowder smoke clears, they find that three have hit their marks. One poacher has been shot through the heart and dies instantly. Another has been hit twice in the stomach—he takes 20 minutes to die. The others flee across the bridge, escaping with the prized horn. It's a bittersweet win for Boro. Another rhino is dead, its horn now heading to China or another port in Southeast Asia for black market trade. But the two human casualties were wanted Naga poachers, members of a notorious hunting tribe from the nearby Karbi Anglong hills. ➤➤

THE RHINO WARS Park officer Boro on the poachers' trail in Kaziranga; he has reportedly killed dozens. Right: One of the 1,900 remaining rhinos in the park.

Boro photographs the corpses, as seemingly unfazed as a meter maid writing a parking ticket. Then he and his men carry the bodies back to the park's headquarters, a one-story cement government building. There the dead poachers are laid out on the lawn like hunting trophies. They remain there, collecting flies, until the following day.

Welcome to the front lines of the Great Rhino War, 2008. And just as the so-called white rhino isn't really ivory in color, nothing in this world is as simple—or as black and white—as it seems. Nor are its players.

There are the poachers, who seemingly stand to win the most, and lose the least, from this cobra-versus-mongoose game. Landing a rhino horn can earn them the equivalent of a year's salary, maybe two, as well as new, high-powered weapons. Poachers can make as much as $1,000 on one horn. Skilled sharpshooters can make even more for their services. If they are captured, seldom do they receive jail time or fines—the courts are backed up, and the crime has been deemed a low priority. Fines are often so low that it's more than worth the risk of getting caught. But there can be the ultimate price to pay: Since 1985, reportedly 90 poachers have been killed within the park's confines.

There are the rangers, or guards, who put their lives at stake just to have a job, to be able to send money back to their families, who often live in far-away villages. Their salaries range from $125 to $175 a month, which often includes a pension and health insurance, both rare in India's job market. Prestige and respect are earned for rendering uniformed service. Yet it too comes with casualties. Since 1979, seven rangers have been killed by wildlife attacks—most by rhinos—and 50 injured. This past March alone, three of the 442 men in the forest units sustained injuries from rampaging rhinos. One suffered a broken shoulder, bashed in a rhino charge. Another broke his leg after a rhino bit him and stomped his limb. Another suffered face injuries after a rhino charged him, hurling him into a tree.

And then there is Boro, who's remained unscathed, and whose motives are not quite so simple to gauge. To villagers he's known for his cryptic and threatening statements. One of them is oft-repeated: "If you kill one of my rhinos, I will kill three of you." To conservationists, though, his cause is worth fighting for: Only 2,400 of the prehistoric-looking animals remain in the world. Nearly 80 percent of them live in the vast wilds of Kaziranga National Park—1,900 in all. Now the battle is escalating in violence. This past year the number of slaughtered rhinos rose to 24, after a body count of only three in 2003. Most recently, in June a male rhino's bullet-riddled body was found, its legs and head shot to pieces, its horn sawed off. In May a female rhino and her calf were also killed by poachers. Both were relieved of their horns. The question, as the war becomes bloodier for all, is: Human life or rhino life, which is more valuable?

* * *

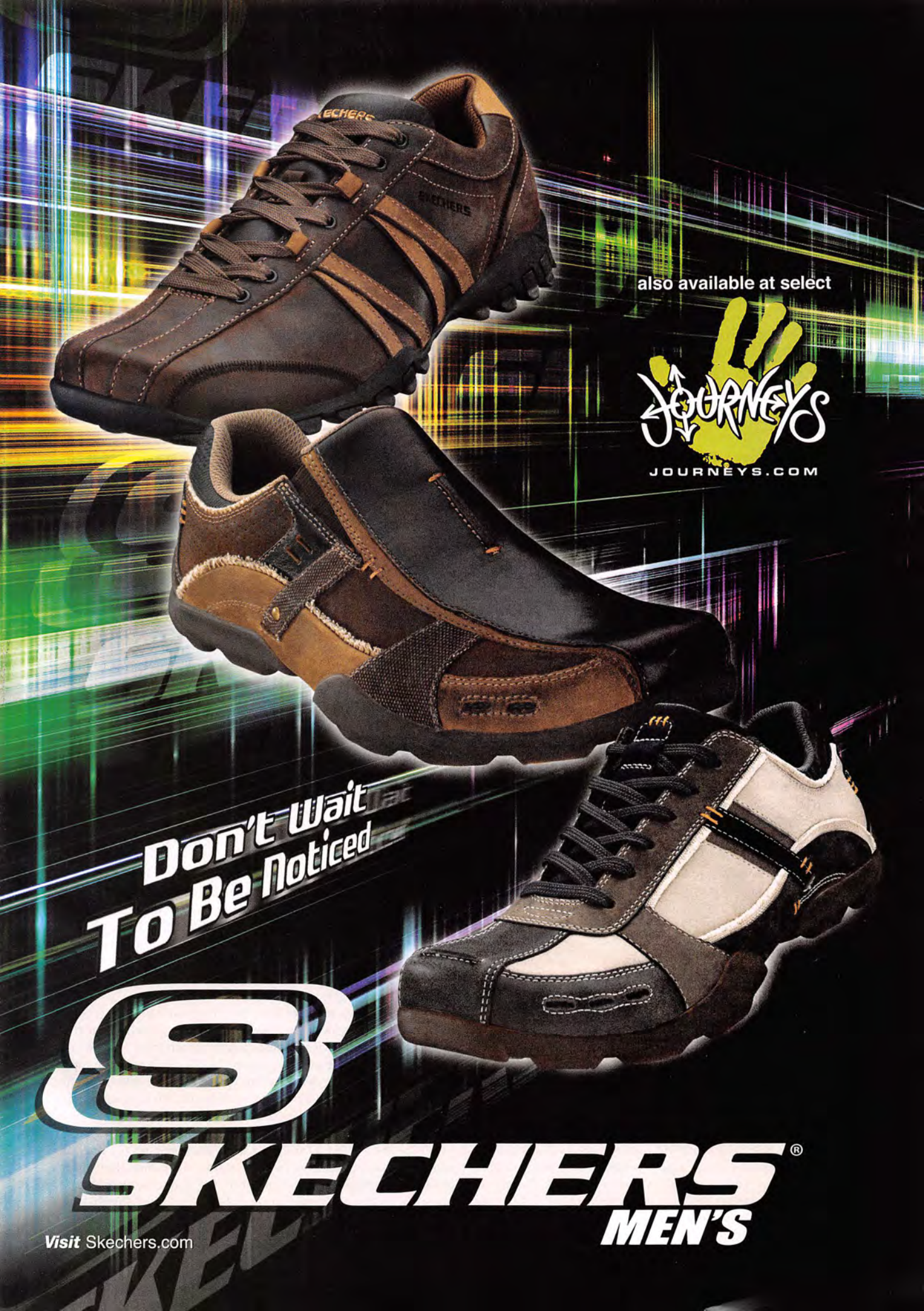
THE ENDANGERED INDIAN RHINO, BOASTING ANCESTRY DATING back 40 million years, is a tank of a mammal whose horn is coveted on the black market for its use as a key ingredient of traditional Chinese medicine, particularly as an alleged aphrodisiac. However dangerous, the process of hunting the rhino is a relatively simple affair: A local scout stakes out a grazing animal and cell-phones in the location to his team. The hunters move in and either shoot the animal on the spot or dig a pit on a well-used trail to trap it. Or they run a cable from a nearby high-tension wire into a favored wallowing pond, and when the animal enters the water, it is electrocuted. From there poachers hack off the horn with a knife, an ax, or a saw, drop the horn into a satchel, and make for safety, often to a waiting vehicle outside the fenced-in reserve. Some buyers require that a tail or a foot be removed as evidence for skeptical customers. The horn is sold as a powder; without proof, the powder could be anything.

The quest for this two- to five-pound horn—which can reportedly garner $20,000 on the black market—has taken down about 650 rhinos in this reserve over the past 40 years. It transformed the jungle into a killing field during the 1980s and 1990s. The carnage peaked in 1992. That year 48 rhinos were slaughtered. But poachers were literally stopped dead by Boro and his sprawling network of informants, one of whom is known simply as 007. For a couple of years running, fewer than 10 of the animals were killed. Over the past year, however, poaching has exploded again. With endangered animals, there are none to spare. And there's a matter of pride here: The rhino is the state symbol of Assam, adorning flags, T-shirts, even coins.

* * *

IT TAKES 40 HOURS OF TRAVEL TO GET TO KAZIRANGA NATIONAL Park from the northeastern United States. First there's a flight to Delhi, landing in Guwahati in the northeast state of Assam. From there it's a five-hour drive on Highway 37, the main east-west roadway. ➤➤

BORO, S.L. GUYNUP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The Kaziranga National Park preserve is a lush island of swamp and forest surrounded by an exploding human population, many of whom are Bangladeshi immigrants in this depressed corner of an otherwise booming country.

This is where, with the help of my guide, I find Boro. He does not appear like "Kaziranga's Braveheart," what a popular Indian magazine dubbed him some years ago. He is 51, perhaps 5'8", balding, and boasts a slight paunch. His fingernails appear manicured, his khaki uniform starched. His voice is soft. He entertains a visitor in a civilized fashion, summoning his assistant in Assamese by ringing an antique silver bell. He serves butter cookies and tea, the latter from delicate china cups.

In his cluttered office, stacked with paperwork—there are no computers or TVs—a slender gecko crawls across a wall of honor plaques that Boro has received; one is from the United Nations for "extraordinary dedication and service," another recognizes his "outstanding valor." Earlier this spring, CNN named him a "Real Hero." In 2005 he even became a YouTube star. A video of him and his men being attacked just outside the park by a leaping tiger—knocking both Boro and his driver off an elephant—became an Internet favorite. The bloodied driver lost several fingers. In his journal that day, Boro wrote, "It was a great accident in my life. By the grace of God we were carried from the Mouth of Death."

* * *

AND YET THERE'S A DISCREPANCY BETWEEN his actions and his accolades. He calls those who don't abide his laws of the jungle "miscreants," a word he favors. "God has created some men to destroy miscreants and establish calm and quiet," he says. A religious man, he prays that "miscreants will be destroyed." When six suspected poachers were apprehended this past January, he admits to having blindfolded them, and then jabbing one, reportedly with the point of his rifle. The result? "He confessed," Boro says, beaming.

And what of the body count he is credited for having tallied in 20 years? Reports have it that he and his rangers have "taken down" as many as 100 would-be poachers; some reports and newspaper accounts put the number at 37. When questioned repeatedly about taking human lives over the killing of a rhino, he skirts the question—as he does his own body count figures. "Being civilized creatures, we humans must protect wildlife," he says.

He doesn't see anything peculiar about breaking out a photo album holding gruesome black-and-white and sepia crime-scene stills of his casualties, as well as forlorn mug shots of his captured suspects. One of the snapshots depicts a poacher with his intestines spilling out; another lies half-naked with his mouth agape, wounds in view. Still other photographs show naked bodies, their bloody clothes stripped from them. It is a gorefest. The pictures, he says, "help deter other poachers. You must understand. We are fighting a war. We are the soldiers, and the poachers are our enemy."

For his part, Boro has the support of government officials, such as park director Suren Buragohain. Asked how he feels about the killing of poachers, Buragohain responds via e-mail, "We do not feel anything, because we see a dead rhino, and we get angry. We forget humanity; we see it as one being killing another being. Inside the park, if anybody is caught poaching, law takes its own course. Protecting the park is just like war. To lose a rhino or a human life, both things are very pathetic. But, unfortunately, if we want to protect the rhinos, we have to sacrifice the poachers. If someone tries to kill one, we have to retaliate."

In Hinduism there is no distinction between human beings and animals—all are manifestations of God; all have souls. Some, like the elephant, are even deemed divine. The rhino is not.

When pressed further on what keeps him from feeling guilt, Boro goes silent. Then he adds, "I had an ambition to stop poaching and give proper service to nature. If we don't fire, they will kill us." He ruminates, "Is it really worth losing a life for a small horn?"

* * *

FOR CENTURIES THE RHINO HORN HAS BEEN ascribed magical powers and healing properties. In Assam local tribes once sewed a chip of rhino bone into their forearms to imbue them with the animal's strength. People drank its urine to cure skin diseases. The 16th-century Chinese pharmacist Li Shi Chen claimed that it could cure snakebites and "devil possession." Today traditional Chinese medicine uses the horn to lower fever, but also to treat bone disorders and common colds. It is more famously believed to increase sexual vigor, probably because of the rhino's sexual endurance: A mating can last as long as 90 minutes.

Still, at least one major pharmaceutical company, Hoffman-La Roche, researched the healing propensities of rhino horn and found that it had little use for anything, including arousal. The horn of a rhino is composed of keratin (a protein component of skin, nails, teeth, and hair), which lacks any medicinal value. Said one researcher, "This proves that rhino horn is of no use to anyone except the original owner. You would get the same effect from chewing your own fingernails."

This factor, however, does little to curb demand for it, particularly when it sells for $20,000 or more per kilo (one horn can weigh up to three kilos). "It's difficult to give a realistic figure on their value," says Richard Thomas of the wildlife advocacy group TRAFFIC. "It depends on supply and demand." *The Earth Times* recently reported that five rhino horns had sold on the black market for $200,000 in Vietnam, although one of those confiscated horns had sold in South Africa for only $2,000.

Prohibited under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), a thriving black market operates in China, Taiwan, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Macau, and Yemen. Rhino horns are routed overland through Nepal and Tibet, and sometimes through Myanmar to China, by international crime syndicates. International trade in rhino horns is banned under a U.N. treaty and has been illegal in China since 1993. That's turned it into a clandestine, back-alley ➤➤

SUMS OF THE PARTS

Rhino horns mean big bucks. But there are plenty of other rare appendages going for high stakes in the international black market.

Item: Shark fins
Origin: China, Japan
Demand: 38 million sharks killed per year; finning banned in 60 countries
Used for: Gourmet soup ($150/bowl)
Black market price: The tailfin of a whale shark can cost $10,000.

Item: Bear gallbladders
Origin: East Asia
Demand: 7,000 black and brown bears held captive for bile annually
Used for: Eyesight, livers, gallstones
Black market price: From $25 per tablespoon to $10,000 per kilogram

Item: Tiger penis
Origin: Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia
Demand: 23 endangered Sumatran tigers killed this year
Used for: Viagra substitute in soup
Black market price: $400 and up per bowl; $5,000 for rare white tiger

Item: Elephant feet
Origin: Africa
Demand: 23,000 elephants killed last year; 20 tons of ivory smuggled, 2008
Used for: Footstools, piano keys
Black market price: $675 and up, depending on size

Item: Monkey paws
Origin: South Korea
Demand: One in three of the world's monkeys is endangered.
Used for: Curios, decoration
Black market price: Around $750; prices vary with rarity.—*Nick Haramis*

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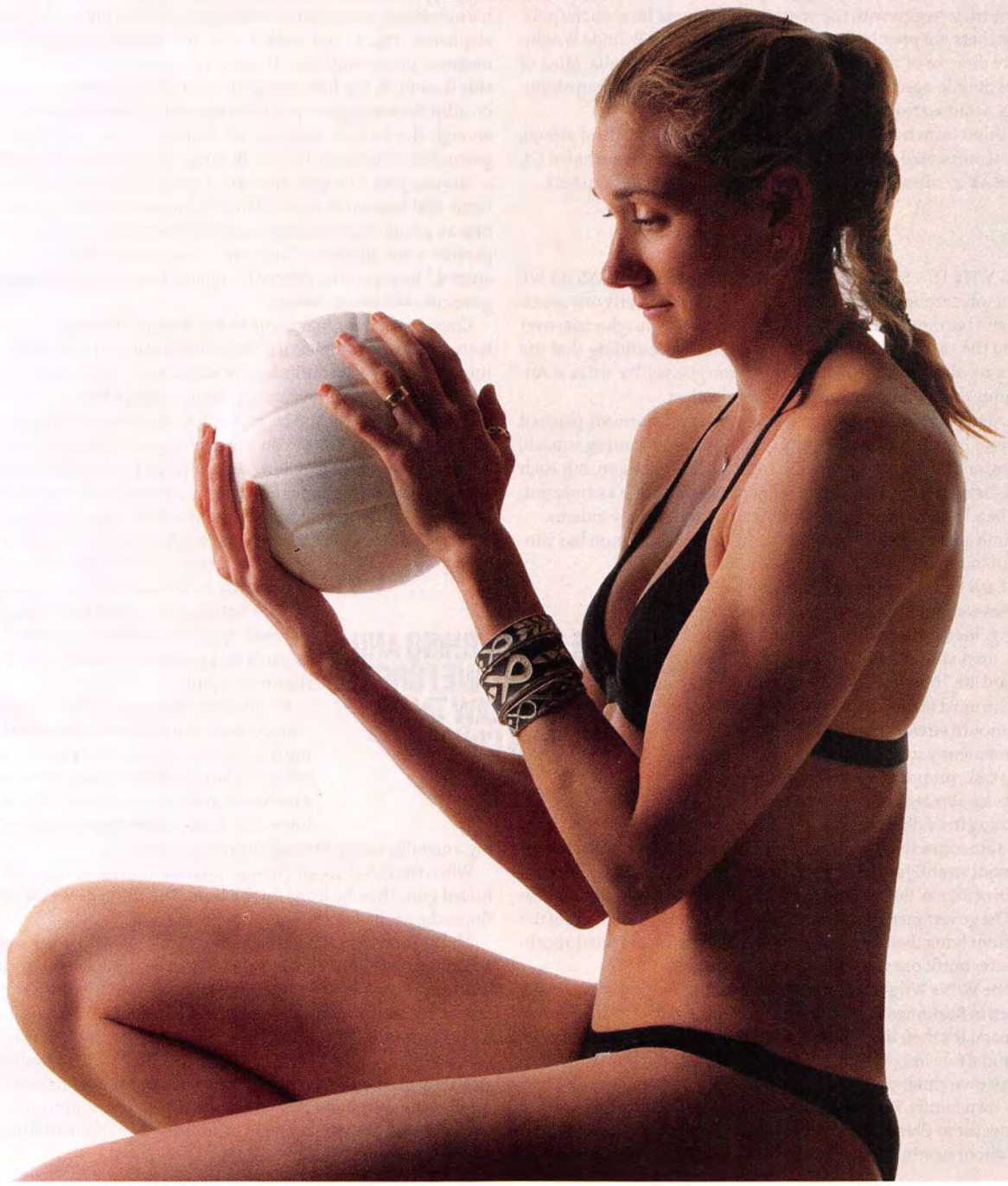

© 2008 Until There's A Cure Foundation Photo: Michael Collopy

REMAINS OF THE DAY
A poacher killed in Kaziranga. Left: London detectives display confiscated horns worth $4 million.

business where customers examine a horn and watch it ground into powder in front of them. They haggle a price. Sold.

But the trade begins with the poachers, the lowest level on the pole. "The poachers are poor but not impoverished," says Belinda Wright, executive director of the Wildlife Protection Society of India. Most of them are middle-aged, and chosen for their scouting and sharpshooting skills, acquired from years of experience.

"The rhino horn trade is very organized," Wright says. And armed. Weapons confiscated in recent years from poachers have included G3, M-16, and AK-47 rifles as well as rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

* * *

"THIS IS WHY IT'S SO HARD TO FIGHT THEM," BORO SAYS AS WE make our way through elephant grass and mud craters early one morning, the sun burning away the gloaming. Pelicans and eagles soar over us, riding the thermals. "We're outgunned," he says, adding that the poachers are often outfitted with night-vision glasses. We arrive at Arimora Camp, on the banks of the Brahmaputra River.

It's a wood and bamboo structure with a corrugated tin roof, perched atop 12-foot cement pillars. We walk past a garden sprouting squash, tomatoes, and bushy marijuana plants. It grows wild here, but each camp has its own patch. Boro is one of few rangers who don't smoke pot, or chew betel nut—an indigenous stimulant used by many Indians.

We climb steep wooden stairs. Inside, the open-plan room has windows but no screens. Flies and mosquitoes swarm. Each bed is hung with a mosquito net. Mattresses are simply bamboo mats. There is no plumbing. Meals are cooked over an open-pit fire. The men stand in Boro's presence. "They have a hard life," he says of the forest rangers. He has lived in most of the camps, including one for a seven-month stretch in 1987. Unlike other officers, he frequently stays out with his men. It's an ongoing task, propping up the troops' morale. Their job can sometimes seem futile.

According to wildlife protection officials, few poachers are convicted. Maximum fines are as little as $250. The Assam government recently proposed tougher penalties, a 10-year prison term, and fines of $1,200. But so far no one has received the maximum sentence. "The government gives us nothing," says Boro. "Ministers of the government bring their families by for a lovely day's safari but do nothing to better outfit our guards to protect the animals."

Says the WPS's Wright, "The stalwarts are the forest guards. Many have been in Kaziranga for years and are deeply committed to protecting the park. It's their life." To Boro their motivation is simple: "For us these animals are like our family. We protect them from hunters like we would our own children."

Of his own family, Boro gives little. His eldest daughter is studying to be a doctor in China. His 17-year-old son and 15-year-old daughter attend school nearby. His wife of 23 years is a superintendent in the railway department in Guwahati. It was an arranged marriage. He sees her for just three or four days every few months. And there is little from his upbringing to explain his obsession with the rhino (in fact, he favors elephants, tigers, and snakes over his charge), nor his Draconian means of protecting them. He grew up in Gosaihat Mirza, a village outside Guwahati, the fifth of eight kids, so poor that they slept on straw on a dirt floor with gunnysacks for blankets. His family plot raised only enough rice to feed them for six months of the year. They foraged greens from the forest. He and his father and brothers weeded roads in a national park to supplement the family's income; there he spotted tigers and learned to identify medicinal plants. Wildlife provided for him an escape from poverty's realities. Boro wanted an education; his parents were illiterate. "Someone without knowledge is like a wild animal," he says. After college he applied to and was accepted into the government's forest division.

Conservationists may argue that it does not matter if Boro is a vigilante with a God complex or if he should be sainted for his work. He gets the job done, and few are lining up to do it. Rhinos are a dying breed, and they are ceaselessly fascinating—not to mention highly dangerous.

Which becomes all too clear on my final journey to the park, when I am asked to ride shotgun on a poaching patrol. Early one morning, I hop into the Jeep beside Boro. An armed guard named Jayanta Borah accompanies us, seated in the back of the open four-wheeler. A rifle sits in his lap. The land is shrouded in mist and the dawn light is murky as we drive a dirt path cut through the elephant grass. We glimpse a herd of miniature hog deer, which flee as we approach, followed by a wild boar. We pass a herd of Asian buffalo bathing in a pond just a few feet off the road. And then we see it: an animal, maybe 30 yards away, standing in the grass. It's a bull rhino—a big one.

> "WE SEE A DEAD RHINO AND WE GET ANGRY. WE FORGET HUMANITY. LAW TAKES ITS OWN COURSE."

Borah stage-whispers, "Gorh," Assamese for "rhinoceros." Boro stops the four-wheeler, waiting to see if it will charge. He has seen them flip vehicles. The rhino turns to face us. Its Shrek-like ears swivel, and it raises its horn to the sky, sniffing us out. Borah rattles the bolt of his rifle, making a metallic racket, attempting to scare it off.

When the rhino doesn't budge, Boro looks at us with an adrenaline-fueled grin. Then he leans on the horn. The rhino backs up. And Boro floors the gas pedal.

The animal turns its bulk and bolts after us with what seems like ridiculous speed for its truncated legs. The vehicle fishtails through mud puddles. The snorting rhino gains ground. The Jeep is going as fast as it can through the impenetrable terrain. The rhino is within feet of ramming us. My heart is pounding. The guard can now almost reach out and touch his monstrous head, if he were so foolish. It has sidled us in speed. All we can do now is keep rolling or risk crashing off the side of the road. There are split seconds of indecision. Then, abruptly, the rhino simply stops. It ambles leisurely into the high grass. And then it vanishes. ●

DEAD POACHER, S.L. GUYNUP

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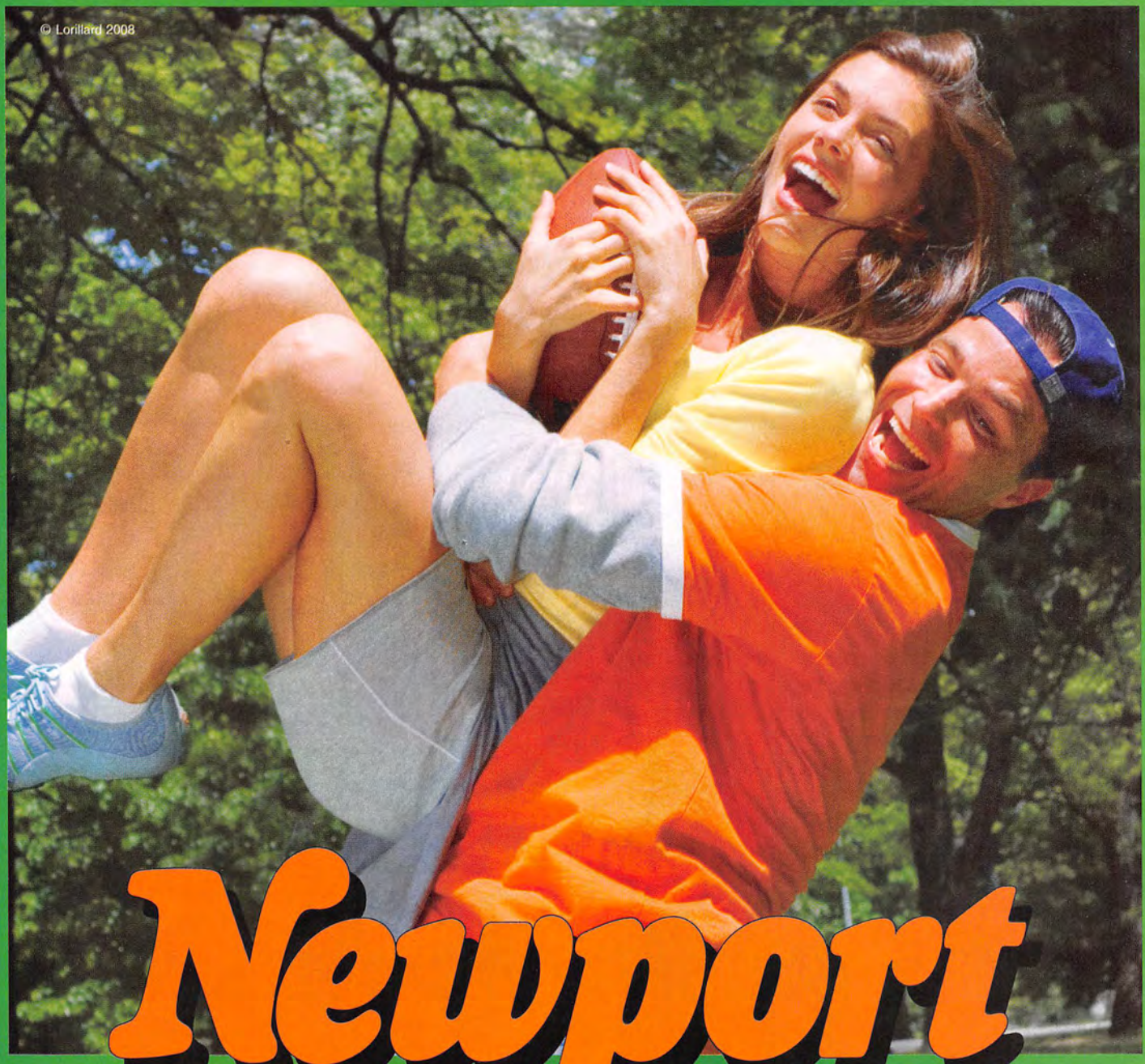

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EXPERT

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HOW WE PICKED 'EM: To build your *Maxim*-approved itinerary, we rounded up insider tips from campus spies and huddled with Kirk Herbstreit, ESPN's college football guru, to get the lowdown on the match-ups. See you on the quad!

GAMEDAY GETAWAYS

The ultimate guide to this season's most important college football games—featuring the wildest parties, the comeliest coeds, and killer off-campus offerings. Don't forget your helmet!

1 Ohio State at USC
September 13

Herbstreit's hunch: "This is one of the marquee match-ups and may decide who goes to the national championship game."
Party: Two things you need to know to fit in at a raucous USC tailgate party: When the band plays "Tusk," yell "UCLA Sucks!"; and if you're blessed enough to experience the USC Song Girls up close (the hottest cheerleaders in college ball), know you'll never feel the same way about turtlenecks again.
Fifth quarter: Ride Cali's wildest waves at Topanga Beach. Pat Murphy, owner of Learn to Surf L.A., says the September swells there make it one of the juiciest surf spots on the mainland.

2 ASU at Arizona
December 6

Herbstreit's hunch: "There's a lot at stake in this last game of the season, and people don't realize how strong the hatred is in this rivalry."
Party: Start early at U of A swillery O'Malley's on Fourth, then jump on the trolleys that whisk you to the tailgates. And skip the nacho lines during timeouts—that's when Wilbur the mascot hoses down the student sections, transforming the stands into the world's largest wet T-shirt contest.
Fifth quarter: Bring your clubs for the golf orgy that is Tucson National, which offers two, yes, *two* of the best courses in the Southwest. It's tee time, baby!

3 PSU at Wisconsin
October 11

Herbstreit's hunch: "This is a huge game for both teams, so look for big, big hits."
Party: Tailgating encompasses the holy trinity of dairy state debauchery—beer, brats, and fried cheese—so start off Saturday right by washing down brew No. 1 with a brat-and-egg sandwich (and a side of fried cheddar!) at State Street Brats. Then follow the boozy masses to Regent Street, which is dense with beer tents, bars, and about 10,000 well-lubed Badger fans.
Fifth quarter: The nearby Devil's Lake State Park has some of the most breathtaking scenery and toughest rock climbing bluffs in the Midwest.

4 Georgia at LSU
October 25

Herbstreit's hunch: "Georgia is the most physically talented team in the country, but it'll take a lot to win at LSU."
Party: Tiger Stadium holds 92,000 and at least another 60,000 show up without tickets, so during the pregame, every sliver of open space near the stadium is transformed into a tent-covered bacchanal.
Fifth quarter: Get your grub on, Cajun style. Cynthia V. Campbell, food critic at *The Advocate* in Baton Rouge, says you must eat at Jubans for the greatest gumbo ever; Lloyd's for the perfect oyster po'boy; and Harrington's Cafe for amazing crawfish pie and fried okra.

5 FSU at Miami
October 4

Herbstreit's hunch: "As rivals go, this is one of the biggest, and this year both teams will desperately need this game."
Party: With the closing of the Orange Bowl, the Hurricanes are now playing in spit-shined Dolphins Stadium. That means NFL-style tailgating with fetching female fans even more scantily-clad than usual. Sweet!
Fifth quarter: Soak up South Beach's sizzling nightlife scene. For celeb-spotting and scoping out local lovelies, dive into Plunge, the poolside lounge at the Gansevoort Hotel, says *Ocean Drive* magazine lifestyle editor Suzy Buckley: "It's Miami's best-kept secret."

ILLUSTRATION, HAISAM HUSSEIN

JOINT RESOLUTION

Bone up on knee knowledge now to pain-proof your legs for life!

Sooner or later your ungrateful knees will pay you back for every step, stumble, and humiliating double Dutch session. "Of the 360 joints, knees take the most abuse, but are the worst equipped," says Dr. Wael Barsoum, vice chair of orthopedic surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. But a few measures taken in your 20s and 30s will appease your knees for years to come. Here's how:

If you're a: Jogger/triathlete/fugitive
RISK: PATELLOFEMORAL PAIN SYNDROME (RUNNER'S KNEE)
PPS is caused by your kneecap veering inward and grinding against your femur, sending hammer blows of hurt to the front of the knee. The cause: piss-poor running form.
Prevent: Fix your stride. "Most running shoe stores can analyze and fix your form," says Katie Neitz, author of *The Runner's World Guide to Road Racing.*
Hurts now: Call the doc to rule out a torn meniscus—a bowtie-shaped ligament that, if ripped, requires surgery.

If you're a: Snowboarder/plumber/big game hunter
RISK: PREPATELLAR BURSITIS
If you spend a lot of time crouching, the fluid-filled bursa sac—below the kneecap—becomes inflamed from friction. The telltale sign it's PB? Your knee will literally be hot to the touch.
Prevent: It's time to heed advice you've always ignored: Stretch after exercising—not just before.
Hurts now: Call the doc, STAT! "Bursa sacs can become infected," warns Barsoum. And let's face it: Infected sacs are friggin' disgusting!

If you're a: Skateboarder/new gym member/ninja master
RISK: PATELLAR TENDONITIS
Called jumper's knee, this inflammation of tissue between your kneecap and shin sends jolts of pain to your lower knee when climbing stairs. Weak quads and hamstrings are typically to blame.
Prevent: Cycle leg routines into your workouts. It's not all about the guns, bro!
Hurts now: "Stop running for a few weeks and take Advil," says Barsoum. In the meantime, try low-impact sports like swimming—or smoking menthols.

If you're a: Tennis player/waiter/compulsive hop-scotcher
RISK: ILIOTIBIAL BAND SYNDROME
The ITB is a nerve-dense cord spanning the leg from hip to knee. Foot-pounding activities can irritate it, causing a dull pain on the outside of your knee.
Prevent: Do this regularly: Cross one foot over the other while standing, then slowly bend over. Switch feet. Repeat.
Hurts now: Start doing a special daily stretch to avoid further leg torture. Go to maxim.com/knee to learn how.

If you're an: Ex-jock/air duct cleaner/army sniper
RISK: BAKER'S CYST
This deliciously named condition is an excess of synovial fluid that forms a nasty, painful blister on the back of your knee. Those with past knee problems (or who crawl for a living) are most often affected.
Prevent: You can't. "It's a roll of the dice whether you'll grow an extra head on your knee," says Barsoum.
Hurts now: Good news, bumpy—it'll go away in a week or so. In the meantime, do us a favor and skip the shorts.

If you're a: Son of an arthritic/marathon runner/crotchety retiree
RISK: OSTEOARTHRITIS
Arthritis is a disease that causes deterioration of cartilage in your joints. Think you're too young? Nearly 10 million adults under 40 have been diagnosed, according to the CDC.
Prevent: Drink OJ every day. Australian researchers found that those who ingested the most vitamin C over 10 years were the least affected by arthritis.
Hurts now: Rest, ice, compression, and elevation (RICE)—after workouts or if a storm's a-comin', Gramps.

"Doc, is it normal for me to peel this much?"

ILLUSTRATION BY BRYAN CHRISTIE DESIGN

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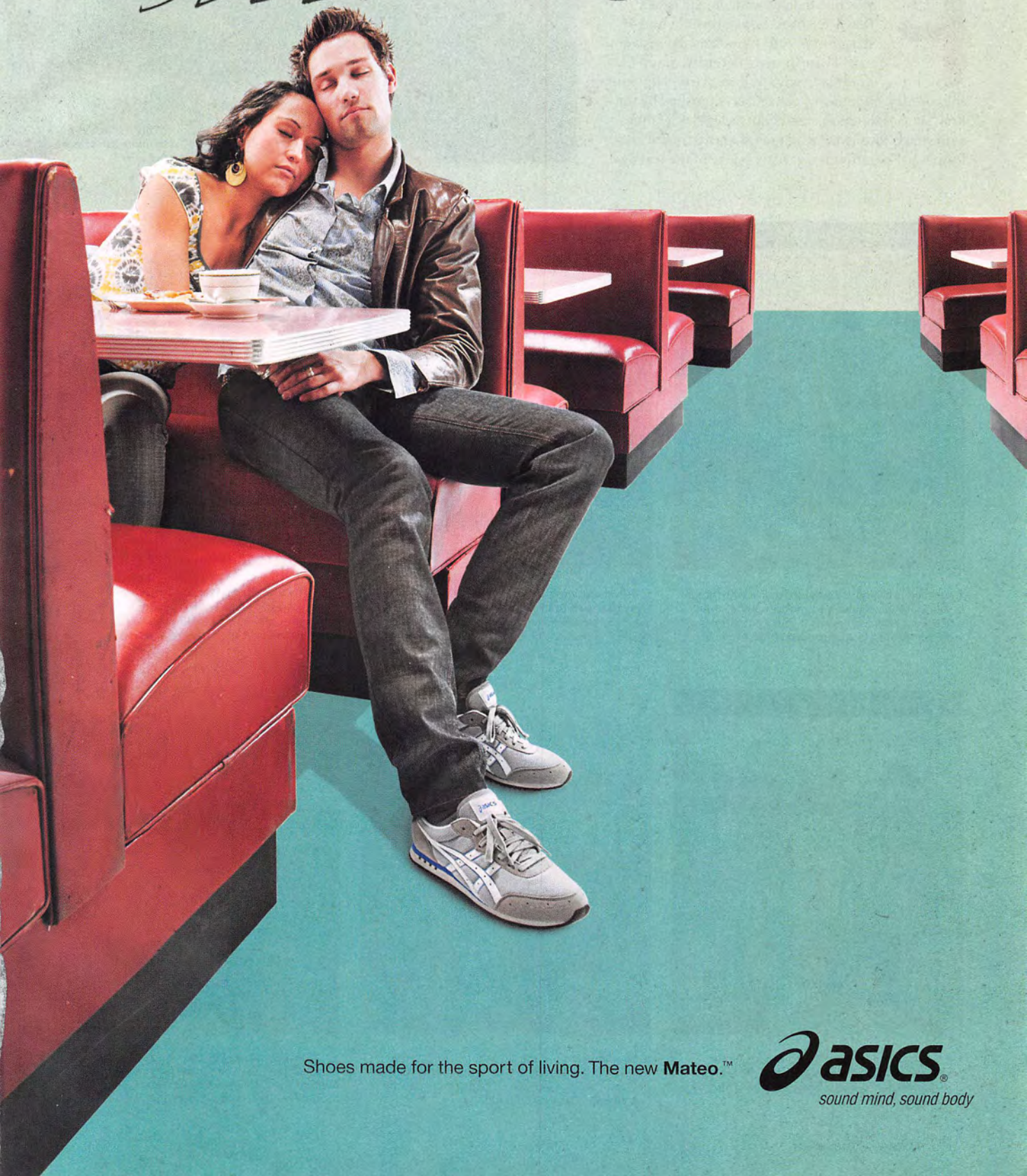

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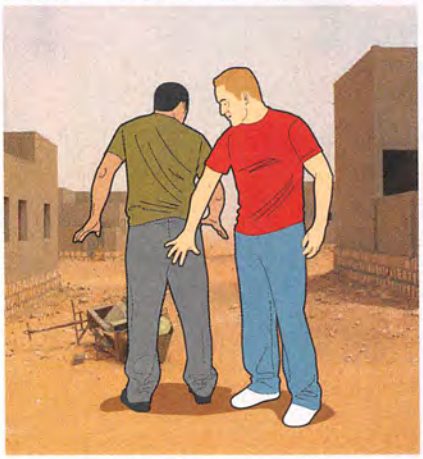
FIGHT SCHUL

Kick ass kosher-style with Krav Maga!

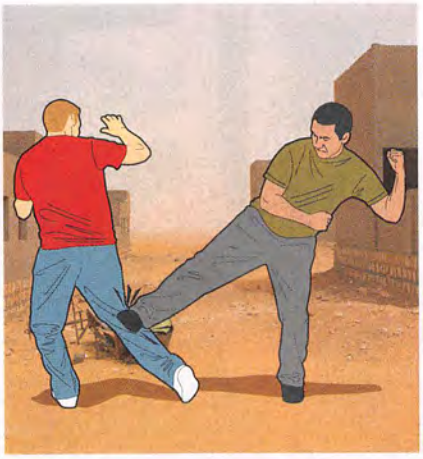
Few fighting techniques are more scarily effective than Krav Maga, the Israeli Defense Forces' homegrown hybrid of straight-up "kill" blows and defensive martial arts moves. Recently, a crop of Krav Maga schools have opened up across the country, but unless your sensei is certified by the Krav Maga Federation, he's about as legit as a rabbi at a rib shack. Rhon Mizrachi, Krav Maga instructor and former IDF paratrooper, gave us a dose of the real deal.

"This'll teach you to make fun of my Dockers."

1 Pummel a Pickpocket



1. If someone behind you gets too familiar with the junk in your trunk, pivot quickly so you are now facing his side or back, Mizrachi advises. If you're not carrying a wallet and are just looking good, take him to dinner.

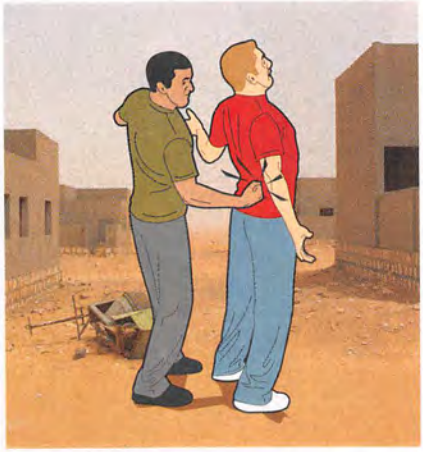


2. Deliver a vicious right kick to the back or side of his knee. Make sure to strike with the ball of your foot for maximum pain. Extra points for yelling, "Now I am the master!" at the same time you give him the boot.

3. This should drive him at least partially to the ground to regain his balance and/or cry. "The minute he's down, walk away," says Mizrachi. "You're a winner when he can't fight anymore." Why, yes, you are!

2 Pound a Pugilist

1. If he gets into a boxing stance with his hands up, let him throw the first punch. Pivot and deflect his puny blow away from your body. You should have the advantage now, tough guy.



2. The momentum of the deflection should turn your attacker so that his side or back is now facing you. Now deliver a couple of well-placed kidney shots directly into his lower back. Isn't this fun?

3. Throw a right knee into the same spot you just punched. Now leave before the police show up. As Mizrachi says, "Killing is easy. Developing the skill to have the choice is hard." Well said, Mr. Miyagi!

ILLUSTRATIONS, OLLIE BLAND

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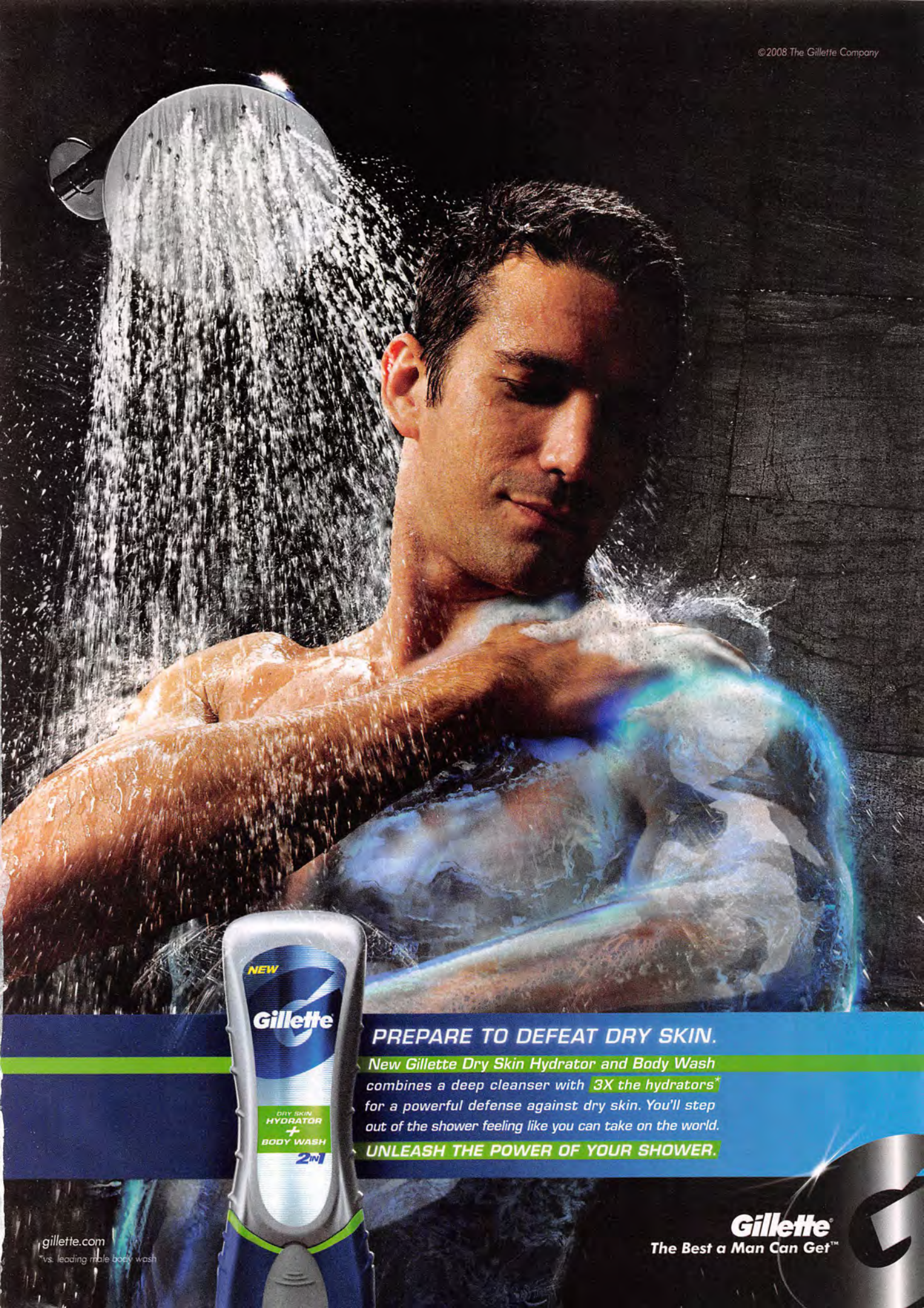

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THE INSTANT BEER CAN CHILLER

Here's how to turn some basic office supplies into the fastest beer fridge known to man.

Supplies

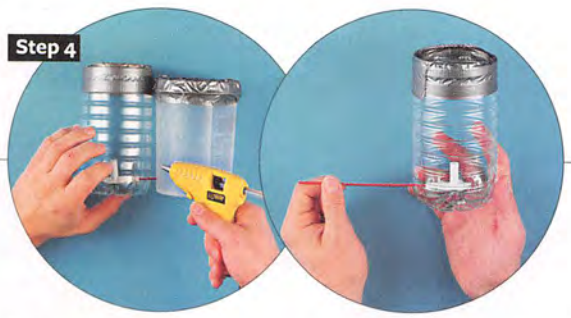
- Compressed air duster (buy one filled with difluoroethane, a refrigerant)
- Water bottle, with top wide enough to fit the air duster
- Precision knife
- Glue gun
- Duct tape
- Warm can of beer
- Another water bottle to hold a beer can
- Alcoholic impatience

For a nearly instantaneous (OK, five-second) way to ice down your brew, all you need are a few "borrowed" items from your company's supply closet. First, wrap duct tape around the cut-off water bottles' tops. These tape rims will hold the beer and duster cans in place.

Remove the ergonomic frame around the nozzle so it shoots air if you press straight down on it. Then poke one hole each in the bottom sides of the water bottles. Be sure the two holes match up so the tiny duster straw can seamlessly pass between the two bottles.

Put some glue (or a loop of sticky-side-up duct tape) on the top of the duster's nozzle and stick it to the floor of the wider water bottle. If "stick it" makes you giggle, please substitute a can of A&W root beer for the Miller Lite in picture.

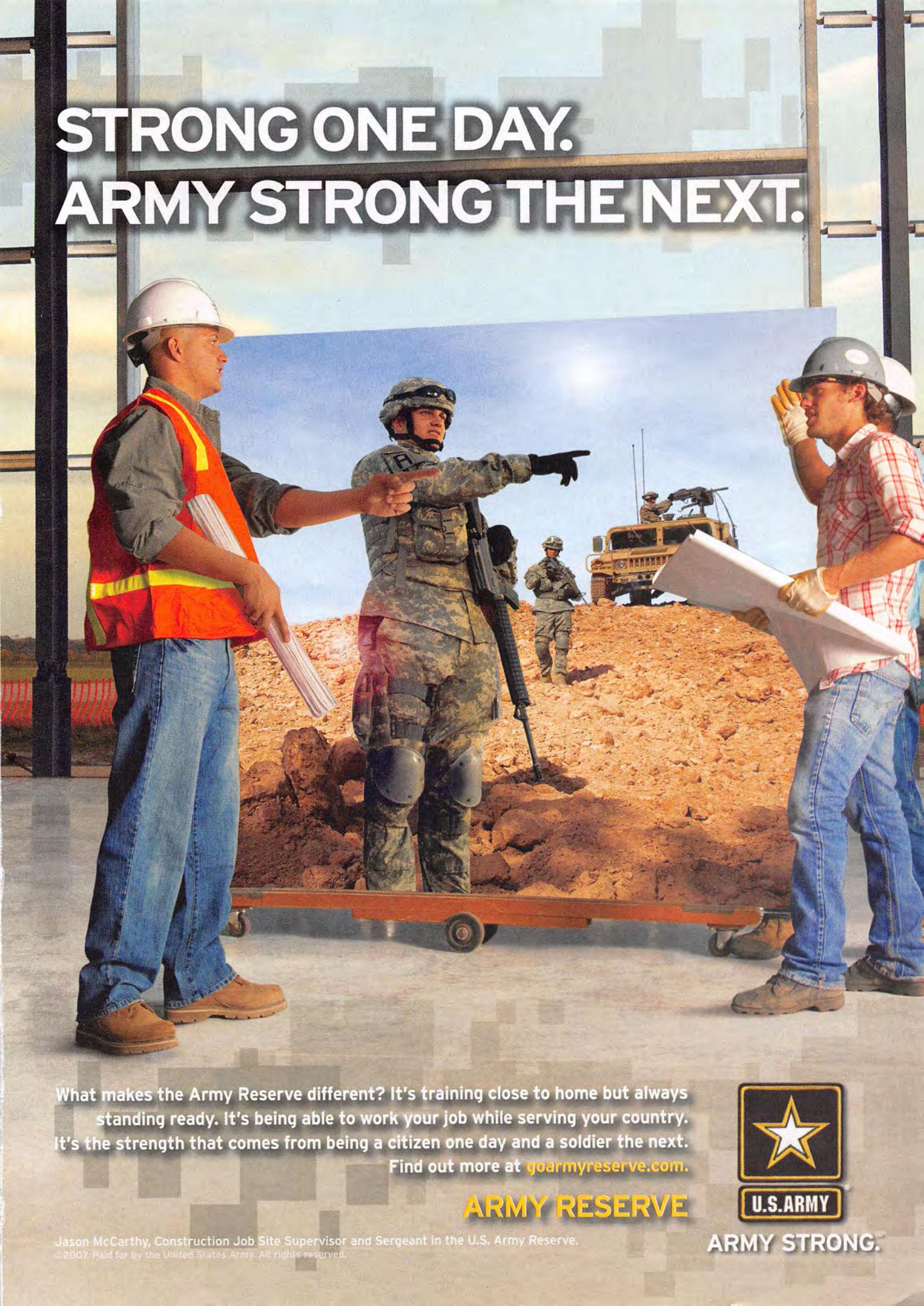
Insert the duster can into the nozzle, then slide a beer down into the narrow water bottle. Now press down on the bottom of the air canister for about five seconds to turn the beer ice cold. Remove the can and chug it down. Well done, your lust for cold beer has officially put your job in jeopardy!



Place the duster straw into the nozzle through the hole, then place the straw's other end in the hole of the narrow water bottle. You can glue-gun two water bottles together or, if you're a real man, simply wrap a piece of duct tape around the two bottles holding them in place. Don't stop now, you're almost done!

PHOTOGRAPHS, SATOSHI

STRONG ONE DAY.
ARMY STRONG THE NEXT.



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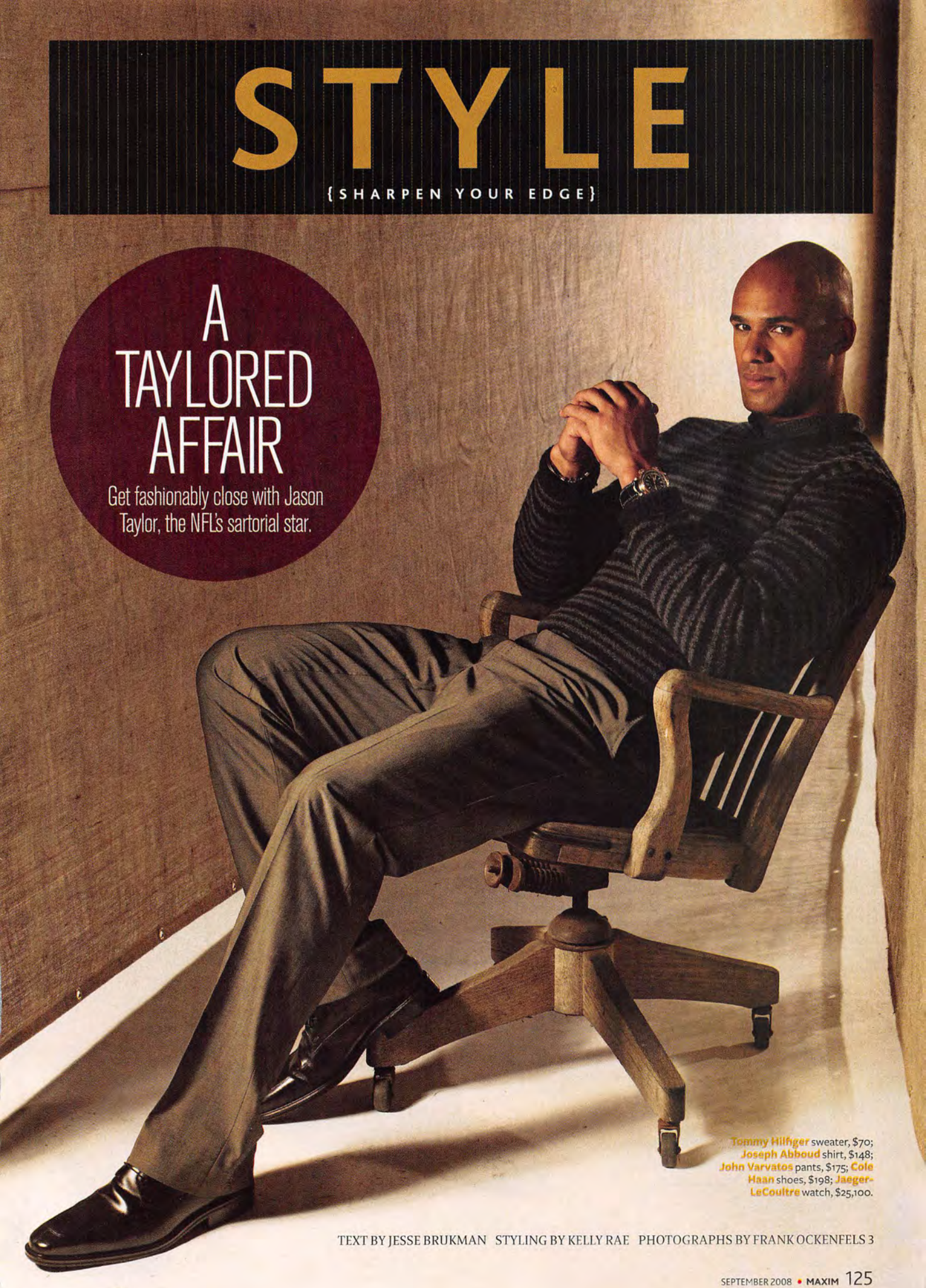


A TAYLORED AFFAIR

Get fashionably close with Jason Taylor, the NFL's sartorial star.

Tommy Hilfiger sweater, $70; Joseph Abboud shirt, $148; John Varvatos pants, $175; Cole Haan shoes, $198; Jaeger-LeCoultre watch, $25,100.

TEXT BY JESSE BRUKMAN STYLING BY KELLY RAE PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK OCKENFELS 3

A 6'6", 255-POUND MOUNTAIN OF FAST-TWITCH muscle and controlled violence, newly minted Redskins defensive end Jason Taylor has been named both NFL Defensive Player of the Year and one of *People* magazine's most beautiful people in the world. It's this combination of substance and style that may well take Taylor from stardom on the field to stardom on-screen. Because, although his 117 career sacks, seven interceptions, and 40 forced fumbles are Hall of Fame numbers, the 34-year-old Taylor is looking at life beyond football.

Reality Check

To become a legend, it helps to topple one first. "In my very first preseason game, in 1997, I'm at Lambeau Field playing against Brett Favre," says Taylor. "And I sack him. That was the point where I said, 'Damn, I'm really here.'" After a decade as the cornerstone of the Dolphins' defense, Taylor is looking forward to punishing a whole new group of quarterbacks as a member of the Skins. And while his stint on ABC's *Dancing With the Stars* is sure to earn a few cracks courtesy of opposing offensive linemen, Taylor's not too worried: "Talk all you want. You still have to block me."

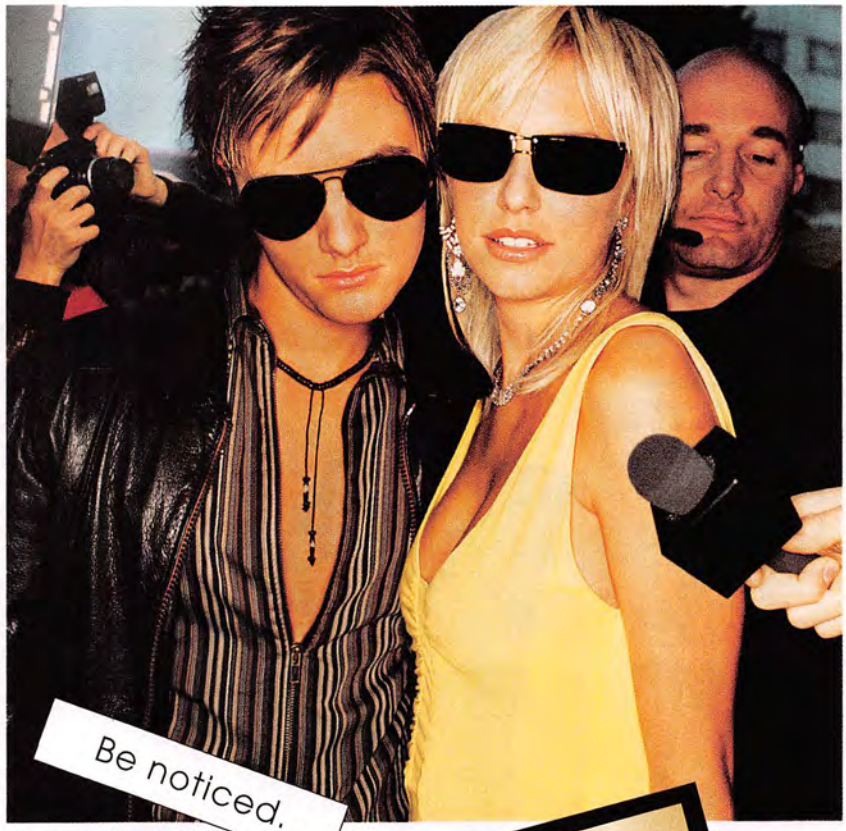
The Afterlife

"You can only play football so long," notes the six-time All-Pro. "This is a tough game for tough people, but there comes a time for every player when you want to play and they don't want you anymore." It's a lesson that plenty of former greats have learned too late, and Taylor's not about to overstay his welcome. As for life after football, he's not taking anything off the table; with his charm, looks, and presence, Taylor is well-positioned to make the transition from turf to screen like Jim Brown, Lawrence Taylor, and, er, O.J. Simpson before him. "You have to do something else. There's more to life than sports. You've got to use this kind of opportunity to better yourself. The NFL is not a destination; it's a step along the way."

Cockpit M-43 jacket, $290; **Gap** Perfect Oxford, $40; **7 For All Mankind** jeans, $167; **Orciani** belt, $265; **Santoni** Jadwin shoes, $575.

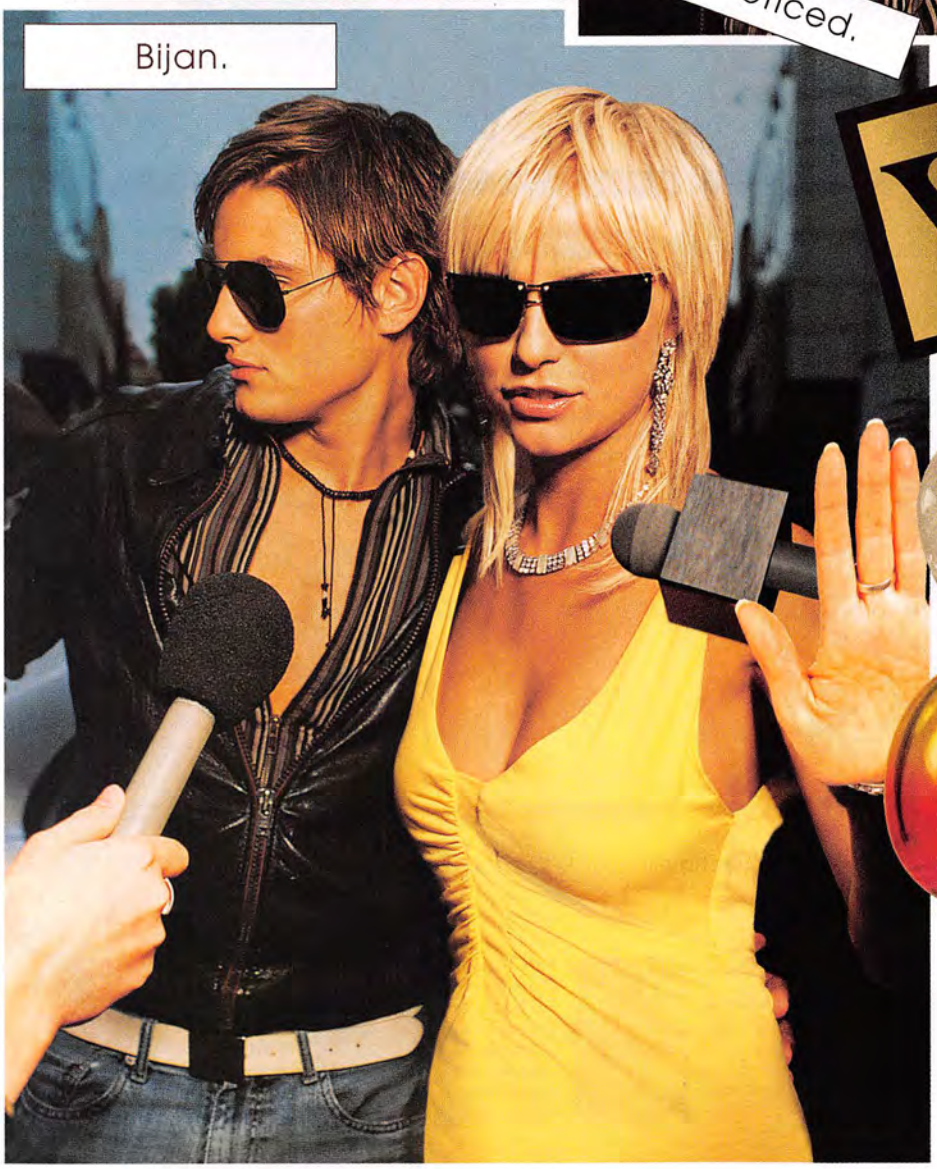
GROOMING: SHAWN JAMES

Be glamourous.



Be noticed.

Bijan.



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Straight

1 Quiksilver "Deanjay"
If you're closer to Frodo Baggins than Yao Ming, the last thing you want to do is compensate with lifts or a pompadour. Mixing a dark wash with a classic cut elongates your bottom half, and by making you appear a tad taller, these well-cut straight-fit jeans will be your savior. **$90**

Skinny

2 Shaun White for Target
Tipping the scales at 120 pounds? First off, hit the gym. Then get a hold of these Shaun White for Target ankle-huggers. The dark wash will create the illusion that you've got a bit more meat on your bones. With a funky button-down and a skinny tie, you'll be ready for a night on the town. **$30**

Relaxed

3 Diesel Blue Baron Denim
For the extra-jacked out there, these relaxed jeans give your thick thighs some room to breathe, but are not so full-cut that you'll look like you have chicken legs. Match these dark wonders with your football jersey and thermal before heading out to the game. **$220**

Boot-cut

4 Lucky Brand Bootleg 181 in Ol' Tarpit Wash
This fresh take on a classic cut is for the average-size Joe who isn't afraid to look funky. The bantam-weight bell-bottoms will lie crisply over your boots without the scrunch that a skinnier fit can have. Try adding a touch of flavor with a colored blazer, scarf, and logo tee. **$110**

BRIAN KLUTCH

Sexy Time!

With Calvin Klein Inc. turning 40, this timeline of CK Jeans ads keeps us feeling young.

START — [1981] — [1986] — [1991] — [1992] — [1992] — Continued

Brooke Shields
Had us thinking naughty thoughts about what could come between her and her Calvins.

Billy Baldwin
CK tapped the least annoying Baldwin well before he achieved fame for being, er, a Baldwin.

Carré Otis, Marcus Schenkenberg
Mickey Rourke and Pam Anderson's exes together at last!

Kate Moss
The waif era was born with this Patrick Demarchelier ad campaign starring fashion's bad girl.

Mark Wahlberg
Counterintuitively, Marky Mark was taken much more seriously after posing in his skivvies for CK.

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Autumn Essentials

Being stuck in a cubicle from nine to five is no longer an excuse to dress like an office drone.

1

The Classic Suit

No one ever said that fall suits have to be funereal. For a look that's both classic and sharp, go gray with a **Banana Republic** 30th Anniversary Heritage blazer and vest, $505, a shirt by **Gap**, $40, and a **Michael Bastian** tie, $190.

2

Racing Stripes

Looking to stand out from the crowd and jazz up those workaday blues? Step away from the classic white shirt and add a little life to your wardrobe with this **Gap** button-down, $40; pair it with this **Robert Talbott** tie, $135.

3

The Frame Game

As Maverick proved, you can't go wrong with a pair of aviators. Whether you're at work or engaging in some sweaty beach volleyball, these frames fit the bill (from top): **Mosley Tribes Hagan**, $275; **Prada Linea Rossa**, $275; **Ray-Ban** aviators, $129.

4

Uncommon Scents

For you edgy thrill-seekers, a dash of **Davidoff** Adventure, 3.4 oz., $60, or **Ed Hardy by Christian Audigier**, 3.4 oz., $75, before hopping on your Harley will hide the motor oil smell. For a dressier occasion, opt for **Perry Ellis**, 3.4 oz., $60.

5

Face Time

Don't let the name fool you: When it comes to wristwear, rose gold is the new black, from the aerodynamic **Oris** TT3 Chronograph, $3,495, and the nautical **Seiko** Velatura, $1,195, to the self-wind **Emporio Armani** Meccanico, $495.

6

Step Into Style

Despite what the Ramones would have you believe, not everything goes with your beat-up Chuck Taylors. So step it up with something more refined, like these dress shoes (clockwise from left): **Aldo**, $150; **Johnston & Murphy**, $250; **Cole Haan**, $225.

CONT. [1998] [2000] [2000] [2007] [2008]

Justin Chambers *Grey's Anatomy*'s douchebag doctor perfects his smolder for CK.

Shakira Even clad in a pair of Calvins, this Colombian songstress' hips don't lie.

Moby Hmmm. Moby? Shirtless? *Really*? Sorry, Cal, we're afraid you missed the mark with this one.

Jamie Burke The ex of Sienna Miller, Kate Moss, and Lindsay Lohan. Yeah, we hate him, too.

Kate Bosworth We have a big *Blue Crush* on this stick-thin starlet, but, please, eat a sandwich.

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p.11: *The Stand,* 2008 Marvel Characters, Inc. **p.16** Magnum and Grasmanis, Newsom (2); Baskett, Drew Hallowell/Getty Images **p.20** Pig, GK Hart/Vikki Hart/Photolibrary; guy glasses, Fredrik Skold/Getty Images; piano, Kirsty Pargeter/Alamy; Klitschko, Patrick Stollarz/AFP/Getty Images; soapy man, Pixland/Corbis **p.24** Turntable, montegro.de; tattoo teeth, Splash News (3); Glau, Hoelck/Celebrity Pictures L.A.; Atlantic City, Corbis; Spore, EA **p.26** Convention, Getty Images; Helms, Jason Odell/Atelier Management; button and donkey hat, ABACA (2); flag, Eeyore, sunflowers, and elephant hats, Getty Images (4) **p.28** Girl, iStockPhoto.com; camo (background), Tom Schierlitz/Getty Images; Obama briefs, AndrewChristian.com; thong, Devon Jarvis; lumberjack, Getty Images **p.32** Hand, Photodisc/Alamy; man, Image Source Black/Alamy **p.36** Shatner, Bill Inoshita/AETN; De Niro and Pacino, Neal Peters Collection (2); *Righteous Kill,* Merrick Morton; *Death Race,* Universal Pictures (2); Vicky Cristina, Victor Bello/the Weinstein Company (2); *House Bunny,* Melina Sue Gordon, SMPSP (2); *Babylon A.D.,* Guy Ferrandis (2) **p.38** *The Stand,* 2008 Marvel Characters, Inc.; Anthrax, Lynn Goldsmith/Corbis; *28 Days Later,* Kobal Collection; *Lost,* ABC/Neal Peters Collection **p.42** Cera, Vera Anderson/WireImage.com; *Killzone 2,* Sony; Mintz-Plasse, Brian Ach/WireImage.com; Black, Kevin Mazur/WireImage.com; *Cavemen* (background), Warner Bros./courtesy Everett Collection; *Trading Places,* Paramount/Neal Peters Collection; shark, Getty Images; male models, MCU Photo (3); Black Eyed Peas, Reuters/Dominic Favre/Landov; *Sit Down, Shut Up,* Fox; Mr. T, courtesy Everett Collectio **p.58** Woman lying down, Win Initiative/Getty Images; Catwoman, Corbis; welder, Tony Weller/Getty Images; banana, Kevin Summers/Getty Images; Hello Kitty, Everett KennedyBrown/epa/Corbis; cuffs, Jupiter Images/BananaStock; Clinton, Gary I Rothstein/epa/Corbis; nails, Michael Wildsmith/Getty Images; Utah sign, Digital Vision/Alamy **pp.60–62** Finn, Tim Gray; Hold Steady, Dan Momick/Renta, LTD **p.66** Downey Jr., Wilson, and Kiedis, Splash News (3); Osbourne, London Entertainment/Splash News; syringe, Medicalrf.com/Corbis; chef hat, Getty Images; BlackBerry, Research in Motion/epa/Corbis; Roadrunner, Warner Bros./Neal Peters Collection; cards, Tom Grill/Corbis; Jameson, Richard Phibbs/Corbis; Frapuccino, Andrew Gombert/EPA/Corbis; Von Dee, Gus Ruelas/Reuters/Corbis; bike seat, Ingo Boddenberg/ZEFA/Corbis **p.70** Ivanovic, Julian Finney/Getty Images; Sharapova, Clive Brunskill/Getty Images; Kuznetsova, Matthew Stockman/Getty Images **p.79** football, iStockPhoto.com **p.80** Cereal, Eye-Stock/Alamy; Indian, Getty Images; Flavor Flav, Lucy Nicholson/Reuters/Corbis; fish, stockfood.com. Collage: Sanders, Cooley, Allen, Harris, and Jacobs, Corbis (5); Ngata, Haynesworth, Hester, Cromartie, Polamalu, Peterson, Davis, Adams, Willis, Sepulveda, Jones, Williams, Merriman, and Lechler, Getty Images (14); Edwards, Reuters/Bryan Snyder **p.82** Tailgaters, Paul Spinelli/Getty Images; Davis, Jones, and Adams, Getty Images (3) **pp.84–86** Belichick, AP Photo/Stephan Savoia; lipstick kiss, Jeffrey Coolidge/Getty Images; die, David Michael Zimmerman/Corbis; calculator, Mode Images Limited/Alamy; Blood Elf, courtesy of Blizzard Entertainment; gravestone, Keith Reicher/iStockPhoto.com; Namath, AP Photo/HH; Birk and Welker, Getty Images (2); Belichick, AP Photo/Michael Dwyer; Jacobs, Edwards, and Peterson, Getty Images (3); Roethlisberger on field, Corbis **pp.88–92** Falcon, Williams, Haynesworth, Ngata, Merriman, and Harris, Getty Images (6); Ford Field, Paul Spinelli/Getty Images; *Star Wars* characters, Neal Peters Collection (3); Benson, Cromartie, Polamalu, Sanders, Reed, Hester, and Lechler, Getty Images (7) **pp.108–114** Opener, Utpal Baruah/Reuters/Corbis; horn, DK Images; Boro, rhino, and dead poacher, S.L. Guynup (3); men with horns, Michael Stephens/AP Photo; shark fin, Jeff Rotman/Getty Images; bear gallbladder, AP Photo/Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries/ho; tiger penis, Reuters/Natalie Behring; elephant foot, James Balog/Getty Images; monkey paw, Jung Yeon-Je/AFP/Getty Images **p.117** Cheerleaders, John Tuell; player and mascot, Getty Images (2); band, Jeff Miller/UW-Madison University Communications; girl at bar, AP Photo/Victor R. Caivano **p.120** Security man, Reuters/Corbis; desert (background), George Steinmetz/Corbis **pp.126–130** Taylor (inset), Getty Images; CK ads, courtesy of Gaslight Archive (10) **p.144** Vaseline, Chloe Johnson/Alamy; bikini girl, Plush Studios/Bill Reitzel/Getty Images; jaguar, Corbis; arrow, ABN Stock Images/Alamy; Lil Wayne, Arnold Turner/WireImage.com; Guevara tattoo, John Birdsall/Alamy; unicorn tattoo, Paul McGuirk/Graphistock/Jupiter Images; *Jaws,* Neal Peters Collection; Cates, courtesy Everett Collection; muddy man, David White/Alamy; Hager, Kevin Winter/Getty Images.

Where to Buy

JASON TAYLOR
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Tommy Hilfiger sweater, $70, Macy's nationwide; Joseph Abboud shirt, $148, Nordstrom; John Varvatos pants, $175, johnvarvatos.com; Cole Haan Air Madero shoes, $198, colehaan.com; Jaeger-LeCoultre Limited Edition Valentino Rossi watch, $25,100, jaeger-lecoultre.com.
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Cockpit M-43 jacket, $290, cockpitusa.com; Gap Fitted Perfect Oxford, $40, Gap stores nationwide; 7 For All Mankind jeans, $167, Bloomingdale's; Orciani belt, $265, Mario's, Seattle; Santoni shoes, $575, Santoni, N.Y.C.
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Ermenegildo Zegna suit, $2,495, zegna.com; Thomas Pink shirt, $150, and tie, $105, Thomas Pink, New York.

THE DENIM DIRECTORY
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Lucky Brand Bootleg 181, $110, luckybrandjeans.com; Quiksilver Deanjay, $90, quiksilver.com; Diesel, $220, Diesel stores nationwide; Shaun White for Target, $30, Target stores nationwide.

AUTUMN ESSENTIALS
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Suit and Shirts: Banana Republic 30th Anniversary Heritage suit, $505, bananarepublic.com; Gap shirt, $40, Gap stores nationwide; Michael Bastian tie, $185. Gap shirt, $40, gap stores nationwide; Robert Talbott tie, $135, roberttalbott.com.
Aviators: Ray-Ban, $129, sunglasshut.com; Prada, $275, Prada boutiques nationwide; Mosley Tribes, $275, Oliver Peoples, Malibu, 310-456-1333.
Shoes: Aldo Guston, $150, aldoshoes.com; Johnston & Murphy, $250, johnstonmurphy.com; Cole Haan, $225, colehaan.com.
Watches: Emporio Armani Meccanico, $495, Emporio Armani boutiques; Seiko Velatura, $1,195, seikousa.com; Oris TT3 Chronograph, #3495, Tourneau stores nationwide.
Fragrances: Davidoff Adventure, $60, Macy's nationwide; Perry Ellis, $60, Macy's nationwide; Ed Hardy by Christian Audigier, $75, Nordstrom.

FRANK OCKENFELS 3

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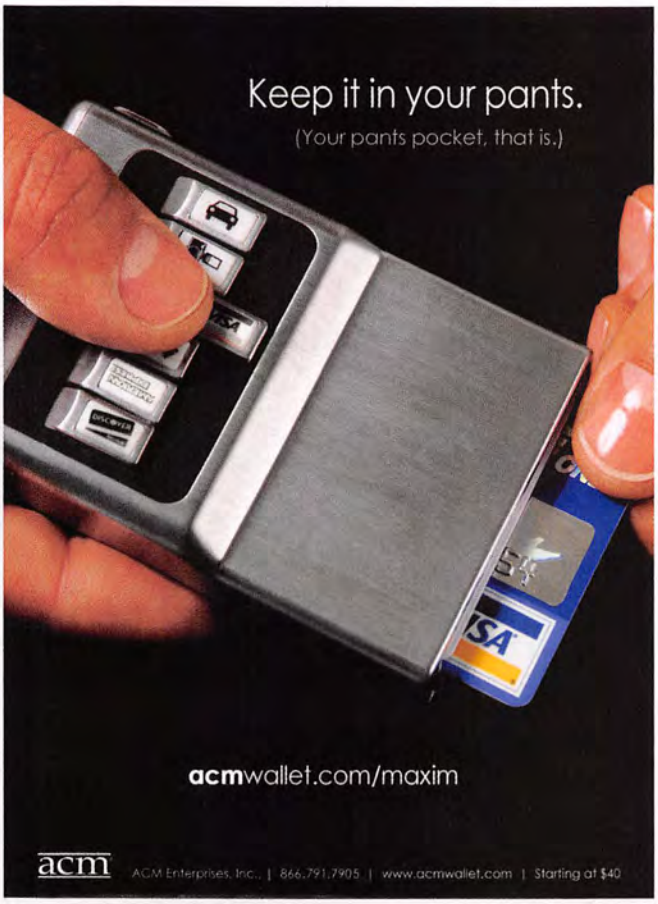
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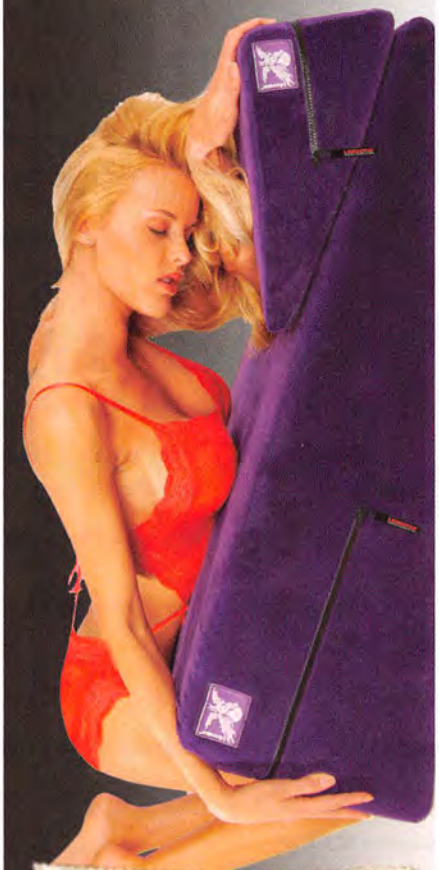

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#1 BEST-SELLING ALL-NATURAL MALE ENHANCEMENT FORMULA

MAXIMUM ENHANCEMENT WITH A BIG KICK!

Introducing MAGNA-RXTRA+, Dr. Aguilar's new energy-infused, extra-strength, fast-acting male enhancement pill that synergistically fuses his original #1 best-selling MAGNA-RX+ formula with an explosive, proprietary blend of super premium energy and stamina boosters designed to help you give your biggest and best all-natural bedroom performance all night long – *again and again!*

"DUAL-ACTION" MEANS: MAXIMUM SIZE + EIGHT-HOUR ENERGY

MAGNA-RXTRA+ is the only doctor-endorsed male enhancement formula that supports maximum erectile size with long-lasting energy and super performance enhancers, all in one powerful pill.

BUY ONE, GET TWO FREE!

For a limited time, order the sizeable "all night" benefits of Dr. Aguilar's amazing new energy infused, MAGNA-RXTRA+ and also receive a *FREE 30-day supply* of Dr. Aguilar's original best-selling MAGNA-RX+ formula 100% guaranteed to add massive, pulsating pure manhood to your love life – *FAST!*

But that's not all! To make certain you experience the biggest and best male enhancement package ever we're also including a *FREE 30-day supply* of Dr. Aguilar's fast-acting MAGNA-RX+ Lotion™ that works from the outside in to instantly stimulate the biggest, thickest, hardest erections of your life! *A $139.90 VALUE – FREE!*

100% MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

We're so confident that MAGNA-RX+ products will transform you into another hugely satisfied MAGNA man that we offer you an 100% unconditional 60-day money-back guarantee and either way, please keep the MAGNA-RX+ Lotion as our FREE gift to you! *(Limit one per household.)*

***Credit Card Orders Call Toll-Free:* 1-877-624-6211 • *Fax Anytime:* 1-818-991-0462 • *Online:* www.magnarxtra.com**

Send orders to: **MAGNA-RX, Inc.** DEPT. MX-098
POST OFFICE BOX 3789, THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91359

Please RUSH the following items. I ENCLOSE $_____ ☐Check ☐Money Order

BUY ANY ONE & GET THE OTHER TWO FREE!

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The Decider:
Did you have a good summer?

Discover if you had the best of times or the worst of times.

START HERE

Did what happened this summer result in your reading this *Maxim* in a prison library?

- no → **Which color most closely resembles your sunburn?**
  - "This question is biased toward Caucasians. I sued Crayola for that 'Flesh' crayon, and, by God, you're next."
  - **Dude, did you go to Burning Man?**
    A. "No, I am not a douchebag."
    B. "Yes, I am a douchebag."
    - A → **Did you take a cruise?**
      - yes → **What was the theme?**
        A. An Evening With Rev. Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr.
        B. Sammy Hagar's Around-the-World Cabo Wabo Party
        C. *Guns & Ammo* magazine's Seminar & Lecture Series
        - A → **Which festival did you attend?**
          A. Bonnaroo, Coachella, or Warped Tour
          B. Duncan Sheik Week, Ozzfest: Spoken Word Edition, or 8,000 Piss-Drunk Sorority Girls Singing Along to Tori Amos '08
          - A → **YES** Enjoy the unwanted tattoos, the even less wanted pregnancies, and the skin cancer a-go-go!
          - B → **NO** Next time, spend it like we did: sewing pants for our cats and ranking our 1,000 favorite YouPorn clips.
        - B → **Which kick-ass tattoo did you get?**
          - A → **Your "summer jam" was...**
            A. "Girls Around the World," by Lloyd feat. Lil Wayne
            B. "Summertime," by DJ Jazzy Jeff & the Fresh Prince—17 years running, boyyyyeeee!
            - A → **NO** Next time, spend it like we did: sewing pants for our cats and ranking our 1,000 favorite YouPorn clips.
            - B → **YES** Enjoy the unwanted tattoos, the even less wanted pregnancies, and the skin cancer a-go-go!
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            - B → **YES** Enjoy the unwanted tattoos, the even less wanted pregnancies, and the skin cancer a-go-go!
      - no → **Which animal best evokes your "beach body"?**
        - A panther
        - A naked mole rat
        - → **What was your out-of-office message?**
          A. "Dear coworkers: Off to Sandals in Jamaica! Sayonara, suckers!!!"
          B. "Dear coworkers: I will be out of the office until June 2, because two days should be plenty of time to conceive a friggin' child..."
          - A → **Which festival did you attend?**
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        - A → **Which festival did you attend?**
        - B → **Which kick-ass tattoo did you get?**
- yes → **Are you now a top or bottom?**
  - Top
  - Bottom
  - → **Your summer fling ended...**
    A. With amazing goodbye sex.
    B. With a Taser to the nut sac.
    - A → **Dude, did you go to Burning Man?**
      A. "No, I am not a douchebag."
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            - A → **Which festival did you attend?**
            - B → **Which kick-ass tattoo did you get?**
      - B → **How did you spend that sacred day, the summer solstice?**
        A. Communing with Earth Mother/basking in music of the cosmos
        B. Barbecuing kielbasa/playing illegal game of Jarts
        - A → **Which animal best evokes your "beach body"?**
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  - → **Whatever, PC police. Complete the following T-shirt slogan: "Lick it! Slam it! _____!"**
    - "Suck it!"
    - "Contract ringworm!"
    - → **Your summer fling ended...**
      A. With amazing goodbye sex.
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BY SCOTT JACOBSON AND MIKE SACKS

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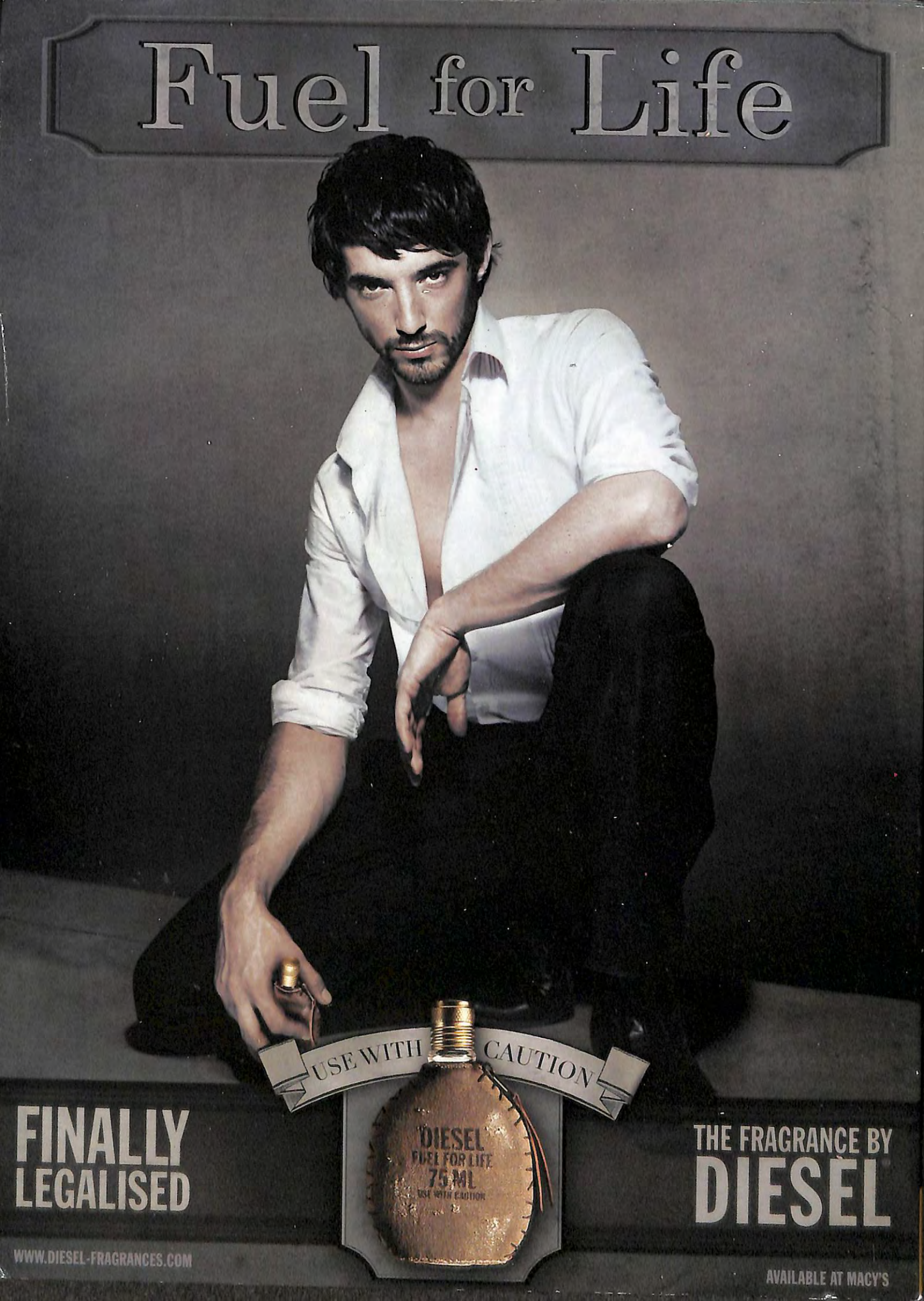

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